

THE PALL MALL GAZETTE

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AN INCREASE OF THE NAVY.

WE hear on very good authority that as the result of the naval manœuvres we are to have an immediate increase in ironclads and in fast cruisers. We are glad to hear it, and we should be still more pleased if we were to be told that corresponding measures are to be taken to supply our coast towns with adequate defences, and our ships with guns, with powder, and with shot.

We may be mistaken. But so far as we can see at present the condition of the first line of our defence is not such as to satisfy the reasonable requirements of our Empire and its commerce. The facts of the case seem to be so strong as to be capable of convincing even Mr. CAMPBELL-BANNERMAN, and as we have no more anxiety to pay income tax than any of our neighbours we shall be only too delighted if any one will prove incontrovertibly that we are utterly mistaken. We take as a convenient presentation of some of the more salient features of the position, Admiral BAIRD'S explanation of the causes of the failure of the defending fleet to protect our coasts from ravage and our shipping from destruction. Of course, we admit at the outset that the recent manœuvres, in which our navy had to furnish forth both the attacking and defending squadrons, afford no fair index to the actual preponderance of our fleets over those of France. The question of relative force is settled by official lists, and not by experimental manœuvres. Let us see whether our recent experience confirms or demolishes the data on which we have based our calculations as to the limits of safety in naval armament. Hitherto the optimists who minimize our need for warships have parried the demands of the alarmists who exaggerate our wants by maintaining strongly two great theses. When we have pointed to the immensity of what may be vulgarly termed John Bull's bread basket, and have asked how it was possible for our fleet to undertake the protection of so vastly expanded a commerce, and the defence of our seaboard teeming with vulnerable wealth, we have been assured that the British Navy was quite strong enough, first to seal up hermetically all the seaports of the enemy by means of an effective blockade, and, secondly, to hunt down every cruiser which might by any chance escape the vigilance of our blockading squadrons. Now upon the first of these points the despatch of Admiral BAIRD affords us a conclusive refutation of the optimist's conviction. Admiral BAIRD, with a fleet as strong in proportion as any squadron which we could detail to watch, say, Cherbourg and Toulon was ordered to blockade Berehaven, and hermetically seal up the enemy's fleet. He failed completely from no fault of his own, and as the causes of his failure will be equally fatal to all future attempts at blockade it may be as well to set them forth. First, steam has rendered it impossible to prevent ships running the blockade any dark night under the very noses of the blockaders. Admiral BAIRD says he kept a diligent and attentive look out, but there were several nights when the enemy could easily have escaped without being seen, and there was one on which they actually did get out without being sighted. In any blockaded port therefore like Berehaven there is "no difficulty for a real enemy if determined to do so." Secondly, even if it were possible to prevent their escape as long as the blockading squadron remained on the look out, it is not possible for the blockaders to keep on the station. Admiral BAIRD tried it for ten days, and this was the result:—

Torpedo boats (from constant work for ten days) were now beginning to give out; officers and crews were getting exhausted, and it could be seen that it was only a matter of time (and that very short) before the boats would have to be withdrawn; their officers and crews, who had been working incessantly all this time, never getting any rest whatever at night, were beginning to show signs of distress. It was evident that the strain was too great, and although they would not give in, or hear of a relief, there was no doubt that a few nights longer would have finished them up, and certainly the blockade could not have been maintained without them.

If therefore ten days is the limit of human endurance in the torpedo boat kept at constant work, the enemy has only to lie snug in port until that limit has been passed, and then to steam out at his leisure. This could only be prevented by a

system of relief which would involve as a preliminary measure doubling the number of our torpedo boats.

The blockade therefore is doomed. We must expect to see our commerce preyed upon by the enemy's ships, and our coasts ravaged by her predatory cruisers. But the optimist then falls back upon his second line of defence, and says, "Oh, but we should at once detach ships which would speedily give a very good account of these marauders." Once more let us hear Admiral BAIRD. He did not succeed in preventing the seizure of Liverpool and the devastation of the north east coast. And for this reason:—

There being only a preponderance of three in favour of A fleet as compared with B fleet, it was necessary to keep all ships within reach of each other, which precluded any enterprise being displayed in attempting chase or capture of the enemy's cruisers. If once the ships had been detached on separate service, or lost touch of by the fleet, there was a possibility of capture, which would mean loss of numerical superiority, and that gone would carry with it the loss, not only of the fleet, but eventually of the Thames and London, which, I am glad to say, still remain intact.

In other words, unless the defence has a very much greater superiority in numbers to the enemy than what we possess over France, all that we can hope to do is to abandon everything else in order to protect the capital! Under these circumstances would even Mr. CAMPBELL-BANNERMAN maintain that the fleet should not be increased?

THE WATER-GATE TO THE LAND OF GOLD.

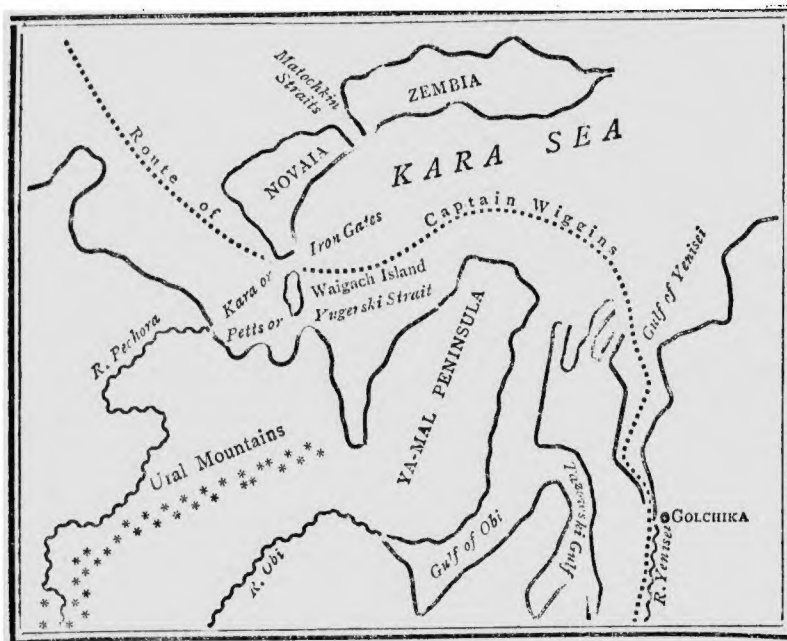
AN INTERVIEW WITH THE MAN WHO HAS FOUND THE LOST KEY

ONE of the chronic delusions of our time, as I suppose of all times (wrote our Commissioner for Russia last June, in a letter which we are only at liberty to publish to-day), is that the old times were more romantic, more adventurous, more heroic, than those in which we earn our daily bread. I never could see things in that light. The Victorian age is as adventurous as the Elizabethan, and there are as many weird and magic marvels in the prosaic workaday world of the nineteenth century as in the romantic verse of Spenser's "Faerie Queen." Of which facts I have been reminded very forcibly by an interview which I have had with Captain Wiggins, of Sunderland, a North Countryman worthy to be named beside Hawkins or Frobisher, or any sturdy mariner of all those who three hundred years ago sailed the Spanish Main, and built up by sturdy seamanship and English valour the maritime supremacy of England. Captain Wiggins is the man who has found the lost key of the water-gate which leads to Russia's Land of Gold in Siberia, and the story of his difficulties in endeavouring to force his way to the door reminds one of the magic spells by which in the romances of chivalry heroes were warded off from the hidden treasure. Certainly no hoard, not even that of Monte Cristo, ever approached in value the store of treasure which Nature has laid up for Russia in the gold mountains of Siberia; and no magician ever reared by his evil arts more subtle and provoking barriers in the path of the bold explorer than the icebergs and other obstacles in Siberia and St. Petersburg have placed in the way of Captain Wiggins and of the Phoenix Company.

The story of Captain Wiggins's repeated efforts to open up a waterway to the heart of Russia's inland Australia is one of the most interesting chapters in the history of maritime adventure. Within the heart of the immense domain which Russia possesses in Northern Asia there are practically inexhaustible resources from which the world can draw supplies of the two things it most desires—wheat and gold. But at present the wheat land is left untilled because it cannot be brought to market, and the gold remains imprisoned in its native quartz because it is impossible to carry to the heart of Siberia the heavy machinery necessary for its extraction. To liberate these two vast stores of food and of wealth it is absolutely necessary that there should be a waterway between them and the outer world. There is such a waterway, although it is locked by ice for nine months out of every twelve, and it is of simply incalculable importance to the future of Siberia that during the only three months that the water-gate is open, no artificial impediment in the shape of red-tape barriers, official circumlocution, &c. should be allowed to close it.

Siberia is an Australia lying in the latitude of Canada. Like Russia when Peter the Great came to the throne, the first necessity for its growth is access to the sea. No foreign foes need now to be fought and conquered before the new Russia can clear a way for its commerce to the world's highway. It is the foreigner, indeed, who is in the present case

the indispensable ally without whom Siberia would remain landlocked for another generation. Captain Wiggins has unlocked the gate which is to Siberia what the Neva was to Russia of the eighteenth century. Yet to courage and perseverance all things are possible, and Captain Wiggins has before this impressed even the blind into his service. During his last journey up the great Siberian river he met an old Samoyed chieftain, whose acquaintance he had made eleven years before. The old native had gone blind, but he recognized the Englishman instantly by his voice, and assisted, blind as he was, in piloting the *Phoenix* up the stream. There are two great rivers, the Obi, and the Yenissei, by which the trade of the world can penetrate three thousand miles into the heart of Asia, piercing the richest undeveloped country in the world, and tapping the immense market of Northern China. But until the other day it was believed that all access to these rivers was impenetrably barred by the ice-pack which was believed to stretch from the Iron Gates to the North Pole. It is true that some hundreds of years ago Russian traders coasting round the Siberian shore discovered that it was possible to make their way into the estuary of the Obi, but their knowledge died with them, and it was not till 1874, when Captain Wiggins in the steam yacht *Diana* went on a voyage of discovery in the course of which he picked up the Weyprecht Expedition, he rediscovered that it was possible to pass the Iron Gates or the Kara Straits, and to take a ship right into the waterway of the Obi. Nova Zembla, which stretches like a bow to oppose the navigation of these waters, is really pierced by these straits, all navigable, the middle being known as the Iron Gates. Admiral Lutke, who surveyed the Siberian coast for the Russian Government, maintained that the Iron Gates were impassable, and even after Captain Wiggins passed them it remained an article of faith with many experts that Admiral Lutke was right and Captain Wiggins wrong. Professor Nordenskjöld, in pursuit of scientific objects and haunted by the idea of the North-eastern passage and the open waterway to the Pole, succeeded in entering the Yenissei a year after Captain Wiggins had shown that the navigation was open. The following rough sketch shows the region where the two rivers enter the Arctic Sea:—



"Well, Captain Wiggins," said I, as I seated myself at the table in the Hôtel d'Angleterre, St. Petersburg, opposite St. Isaac's Cathedral, where the sturdy North country mariner was breakfasting with Major Gaskell, "and where is your ship lying?"

"Oh, the *Phoenix*," he replied; "she is at Yenisseisk, 2,000 miles up the Yenissei, in the heart of the gold region of Eastern Siberia. I took her out there last summer, and left her there with her crew to be ready to go down the river with cargo to meet us at the mouth of the river, whither we hope to arrive in August. I left the Tyne August 5 last year, and anchored at the mouth of the Yenissei on September 1. The *Phoenix* is a slow boat of 273 register tons, carrying about 400 tons cargo and coals, with a crew of eleven men all told and one passenger—Mr. Sullivan, the managing director of the Phoenix Company, to whom the ship belongs, and who made the voyage in order to ascertain by personal observation the exact commercial conditions of the country. She is of sixty horse power nominal, and we never got more than nine knots an hour out of her. On our way out we had very rough weather in rounding the North Cape. In ordinary circumstances we would make Vardo in ten days. From Vardo to Golchika, at the mouth of the Yenissei, took eight days. So that we may reckon that between Newcastle and the mouth of the Yenissei a slow boat can ply in three weeks. Allowing a fortnight for loading and discharging, the voyage out and home can be made in a couple of months. When I made the journey in 1878 to the mouth of the Obi I was exactly two months going and coming. I left on August 1 and returned October 1."

"But this time you did not return."

"No, because my object was to prove that it was possible to take the *Phoenix* into the heart of Siberia. So leaving Golchika we steamed up the stream for a whole month, stopping at Touroukhansk to leave part of our cargo of salt, to be stored for the use of the great fish-curers who have their establishments on the Lower Yenissei. The current of the river ran full five knots an hour against us, reducing our speed to four knots an hour over

the ground, or little more than walking speed. Nevertheless we toiled on day after day, always anchoring at night, until at last, on October 9, we took up our winter quarters at Yenisseisk, where my men are now making ready to collect cargo to descend the river to meet us when we arrive at Golchika."

"What ship are you going out in?"

"We have bought the *Labrador*, an Arctic vessel of 500 tons. We shall also take with us a tender to deliver cargo at the mouth of the Obi and to take in the goods that will be brought down by the river steamers. Then we shall go on to the Yenissei and deliver the rest of the cargo to the *Phoenix* for transport up the river."

"Tell me, did not the last attempt to open up trade with Siberia by this route fail disastrously?"

"Most disastrously, but not more disastrously than it deserved to fail. Never was an enterprise more certainly doomed to failure from the outset than was the despatch of the little fleet of merchantmen, which left England for the Obi in 1879. Five large sea-going steamers of deep draught, and about as capable of standing the nip of an ice pack as so many match-boxes, were chartered at large freights to go to Nadim, on the Obi. They started a month too soon, in defiance of the strongest warnings. Five thousand tons of Siberian goods were purchased in the interior and sent down to meet them at Nadim. But none of them ever reached their destination. And for the very best of all reasons. It was impossible. Cavalry could as soon ride across the Channel as these big eggshells of steamers could have delivered their cargoes at Nadim. For 80 or 100 miles north of Nadim there stretches shoal water stormy enough to be impassable by river steamers. It is this bar of shallow sea which constitutes the greatest obstacle to the navigation of the Obi, and that is the obstacle which we have to overcome. We have to lift the lame dog over the last step in the stile. But these speculators in 1879 knew nothing of the conditions of the navigation. They ignored the advice of those who did; and so the whole enterprise came to a most ignominious collapse. They did not even get to the outer edge of the Obi shore. They cruised about in fog surrounded by floating ice for a month, without ever making their way through the Iron Gates, and at last growing thoroughly alarmed they gave up the attempt, and brought their cargoes home again. The 5,000 tons of Siberian produce sent down for shipment was wasted, and so both in England and in Siberia the project of opening up a new trade route became utterly discredited. But nothing happened in 1879 which I did not predict before the ships left port, and therefore there is nothing whatever in the experience of that year to discourage us to-day."

"Then you have no doubt as to the success of your enterprise?"

"Not the least in the world, if the Russian Government will but give us facilities. The conditions are so simple."

"What are these conditions?" "A practically illimitable territory, producing the finest wheat in the world, and gold mines of a quite uncalculated richness, whose inhabitants must be supplied with salt, oil, and manufactures from Europe. The only route by which they receive these necessities is that overland from Russia. The freight is for these necessities therefore enormous. By the Obi and the Yenissei we can deliver the same goods for less than half or one-third the freight. How, then, can we fail to do an immense business, even although the ice only allows us to enter the rivers two months in the year? But we have difficulties to contend against. We ask among other privileges permission to employ for the delivery of the cargoes ordered by Siberians the only vessel on the river Yenissei which can load and discharge such cargoes. That vessel is the *Phoenix*. It happens to be a foreign ship, but we ask for no monopoly in her favour. We only ask that, as she happens to be the solitary steamer capable of delivering the goods Russia's subjects want, the Russian Government should not employ its authority to prohibit her employment."

"Are there any other steamers on the Yenissei?"

"There are—five paddle steamers, passenger boats, and floating bazaars, none of them cargo boats, and none of them fitted for carrying the boilers and heavy machinery that will be required for the development of the Siberian quartz goldfields. One of these river steamers is quite a curiosity in its way. It was built on the river by Mr. Guadaloff, of Ural iron, with Swedish boilers and machinery, which were brought over the Ural at immense cost, and constructed by him with hardly any of the machinery which is regarded as indispensable in our shipbuilding yards. It is a palace of a boat 200 ft. long, capable of steaming nine knots an hour, and must have cost its patriotic constructor £40,000. These great river boats are floating bazaars. They ply up and down the river, anchoring opposite every village, whose inhabitants come on board to inspect the goods displayed on the various stalls on deck and to make their purchases. But these light river craft could not receive or deliver the heavy castings which we have to carry for the gold miners. Pray don't mistake us. We have not the least desire to monopolize or even to share the river traffic. Only, as we cannot get our goods up the river at all unless we carry them in our own steamer, it is a *sine qua non* that our steamer shall be permitted to do the work until such time as the Russians are prepared to buy and to take delivery of our cargoes at the mouths of their rivers. When that day comes we shall withdraw at once from the up-river work and stick to the ocean transit which we regard as our legitimate business."

"What about the steamers on the Obi?"

"The Obi is better supplied with steamers than the Yenissei, and we do not ask for any privileges of plying up that river."

"Do you ask for any privileges for your goods?"

"Only two—first, that we should be allowed to import certain goods free of duty; secondly, that at the mouth of each of these rivers there should be established what we call a port of franc—that is to say, a port of entry, with Custom-house and depots. These, however, are secondary to the absolute necessity of being allowed to deliver our cargoes to the Russian subjects who are wanting to buy them, and to receive the goods which Russian subjects are wanting to sell. If you knock even a single link out of the middle of a chain you might as well destroy it altogether, and unless we can be guaranteed that the goods which we bring to the mouths of

the two great rivers will find river craft capable of taking them inland we had very much better stay at home, as we should only have our trouble for our pains."

"You have often been in Siberia, Captain Wiggins?"

"Yes, I know it pretty well, so far as the river basins are concerned. My first voyage was made in the *Diana* in 1874, when I spent eight weeks in the Kara Sea, steamed 100 miles up the Gulf of Obi, and proved that there was open water to the mouth of the Yenissei. In 1875, in the cutter *Whim*, I simply sailed through the Iron Gates to prove that they were open. In 1876 I went up the Yenissei for 1,000 miles in the steam yacht *Thames*, a vessel of 150 tons. There I wintered, but sledged home 4,000 miles across country to try to get some people with faith enough to try to open up trade with the Yenissei. In 1877 I went back overland, and finding that no one would listen to my calculation as to the trade that might be done there I sold the *Thames* to the mayor of Yenisseisk. In 1878 I took the *Warkworth* out to the Obi and back. I took a general cargo out and brought wheat home, and did the voyage in two months. In 1879 the speculators rushed in and spoiled the business so utterly that it was not till last year I returned to the scene of my former enterprise. Last year I took the *Phoenix* up to Yenisseisk and came home overland. In August I hope to start with the *Labrador* for the mouth of the Yenissei and load up from the *Phoenix*."

"What kind of business do you expect will be done with Siberia?"

"General cargo of manufactured articles, and machinery for the development of their gold fields. Hitherto the only gold mining in Siberia has been alluvial washings. They have simply not been able to transport to the gold-fields the heavy machinery needed for crushing quartz. One mine-owner succeeded some time ago in bringing a miserable second-hand worn out stamping mill and rolling machinery from the Amoor. He has made a fortune, and every one is naturally anxious to put down similar or better machinery. If that machinery is to get to Siberia it will have to go by the Yenissei, and it will have to be delivered by the *Phoenix*, for there is no other route and no other vessel by which such heavy machinery can be taken out."

"You believe in Siberia?"

"Immensely. The wheat region is a vast belt of black soil capable of producing the finest grain for flour-making purposes in the world. The cargo I brought in the *Warkworth* was proved on analysis to be even better than the Indian wheat. This virgin soil has not yet been tilled, for there is no means of disposing of the surplus crop. But the great future of Siberia lies in the gold mines. There are literally mountains full of auriferous quartz which no one has yet been able to touch. Once bring in the machinery, and you will see Australian development equalled by that of Siberia. Ports will be created at the mouths of the great rivers, towns will spring up around every mine, populations will assemble, and all this means business. There is a new market opening up before the world, and we hope to be the first in the field."

EMERSON AND OTHERS.*

If we may judge by the frequency with which his name recurs in current literature of the better sort, Mr. Emerson's star is in no sense on the decline. Here we have Dr. Garnett devoting a whole book to him, and Mr. W. L. Courtney giving prominence in his collection of literary studies to a sympathetic estimate of his life-work. Mr. Courtney, as we cannot but think, sacrifices accuracy to wit in the following judgment:—"Emerson is always giving the impression of a just balked ascendancy, a narrowly intercepted splendour; fine and almost imperceptible lines seem to divide him from the highest and the best. He is always highly commended, but rarely in the first class. *Proxime accessit* is the fit epitaph for his tombstone." Excellent in another application, nay, in many other applications, this epigram surely falls blunted from Emerson's armour. *Proxime accessit*—to whom? to what? Was it not Emerson's chief distinction that in his own little kingdom of thought and feeling he reigned alone? Place him beside the great potentates of literature (if we must measure incommensurables), and his warmest admirers will scarcely contend that he even *proxime accessit*. His field was narrow and his faculty limited; but within his limitations he was incomparable. There are other writers in much the same predicament. Take the first two that occur to us—Charles Lamb and Jane Austen. Neither of these certainly ranks among the great luminaries of the world's literature, yet each was supreme in a peculiar sphere. The man who should write *Proxime accessit* on the grave of Lamb—or of Emerson—would show a fine genius for putting the wrong word in the wrong place. Another critic, again, is exercised about Emerson's failure to "achieve a style;" he cannot understand how Emerson should pass to posterity, "as he clearly appears to be doing," unfurnished with this "usual bribe or toll-money on the journey." Does not the whole difficulty lie in the ambiguous term "style"? Emerson may not have compassed a coherent and vertebrate, still less a complex and nicely-balanced, system of word-welding. His utterances may be fitfully lustrous rather than smoothly and continuously luminous. But where he succeeds his success is unique. He has the knack, not once or twice, but habitually, of so combining words as to set up chemical action between them and generate a new electricity, making worn-out and commonplace terms cohere like adamant and glow ineffably. If this be not style, what is? And it is just in virtue of this gift that Emerson

is passing to posterity. He may not pay his toll in heavily-minted silver or gold industriously chased; but of lambent jewels he can make careless largess; and these have at least the advantage that they can never go to the melting-pot. Dr. Garnett's criticism is admirably sane and discriminating, and in his biographical chapters he shows that fine instinct for seizing the characteristic trait which distinguished his little book on Carlyle. His writing, too, is delightfully neat and workmanlike.

Mr. Courtney's "Studies New and Old" might better be called "Studies in Literature and Philosophy." They are solid and workmanlike rather than brilliant, for it is not often that Mr. Courtney ventures on a scintillation like his epigram on Emerson. On Carlyle, on Hawthorne, on Charles Reade, on Swinburne, and on "Robert Browning, Writer of Plays," Mr. Courtney has much that is just to say and a little that is luminous. His analysis of Mr. Browning's claim to rank as a dramatist does not, in our judgment, go to the root of the matter, but the aptly-named essay contains some excellent criticisms of detail. His estimate of Mr. Swinburne's poetry is thoroughly sound. While he finds in much of the poet's work "the recondite ravings of an artificer of impotent emotions," he does ample justice to the verbal virtuoso, the incomparable master of forms and rhythms and rhymes. At the same time our faith in Mr. Courtney as a critic of the formal element in poetry is somewhat shaken when we find him quoting as hopelessly imperfect and unmusical the following line from Emerson:—

By its own meek and incorruptible will.

To make this line absolutely regular, and to our ear beautiful, we have only to slide, or rather slur, the last syllable of "incorruptible"—a perfectly allowable proceeding. In the philosophical sphere, Mr. Courtney deals with Hobbes, with Pascal, and with the late Mr. Cotter Morison. His criticism of "The Service of Man" is uncompromisingly antagonistic.

MR. MORRIS'S LECTURES.

"Signs of Change." Seven Lectures by William Morris. (Reeves and Turner.) Readers who wish to obtain some knowledge of Socialist doctrines, arguments, and ideals, without facing the unalluring atmosphere of the Socialist lecture-hall, will find "their affair" in this eminently readable book. Mr. Morris writes a copious yet vigorous style with plenty of nerve and sinew, movement and elasticity. He sketches the Socialist interpretation of history; he repeats, vivaciously enough, the current Socialist criticisms on contemporary politics and art; he pulls to pieces, in the Socialist sense, our existing industrial organization; and he shadows forth, with much enthusiasm and conviction, the hopes and aspirations of his sect. From the propagandist point of view the book is an excellent move. The gospel of Socialism, its most fervent believers must admit, has of late been degenerating into a twice-told tale. Lecturers have been grinding over the same old arguments and invectives to audiences in whom familiarity threatened to breed contempt. They have been preaching to the converted, both from the platform and in the press; the unconverted, meanwhile, passing on the other side of the way. These lectures of Mr. Morris's will probably find readers outside the narrow circle of the initiated, and may encourage some of them to hear him further on this matter. They may help, in short, to break the spell of stagnation which has recently fallen upon the Socialist propaganda.

CORRESPONDENCE.

OPEN CHURCHES AND THE REAL PRESENCE.

To the EDITOR of the PALL MALL GAZETTE.

SIR,—It is very good of you to call my objection to the Archbishop's advocacy of open churches "amusingly ingenious," but you are quite mistaken in supposing that I do not mean it seriously. And, in reply to your question "how many of the weekday visitors to Catholic churches are drawn there by the dogma of the Real Presence?" I venture to say, as a Catholic myself, unhesitatingly, and without fear of contradiction from any of my co-religionists, that all persons who visit Catholic churches for devotional purposes, either on Sundays or weekdays, are drawn there by that dogma and by no other cause. Of course Catholics, like other people, sometimes enter churches to examine the architecture or works of art which they may contain, but this is not what the Archbishop and his allies have in view.

—Your obedient servant,

CONSISTENCY.

August 18.

THE MATCH GIRLS' UNION.

To the EDITOR of the PALL MALL GAZETTE.

SIR,—As you have shown so much sympathy with the efforts of the match girls to organize themselves and form a trades union, I ask you to allow me to state in your columns that Miss Grace Hawthorne has kindly given permission for a benefit in aid of the building fund of the union, to be held at the Princess's Theatre from August 27 to 31 inclusive. There is a morning performance, also, on August 29. Tickets of admission to the theatre can be obtained by sending me a stamped and addressed envelope, and any one who is going to the Princess's during next week might combine amusement and utility by buying the tickets from me instead of sending to the theatre or paying at the doors. The "fire-engine scene" is really worth seeing as a piece of very clever "realism." The prices of the tickets for each part of the house are the same as the advertised prices of admission, but those who buy them will be helping to build a home for the match-girls' union.—I am, yours obediently,

August 20.

ANNIE BESANT,
Hon. Sec. of the Union of Women Matchmakers.

* "Life of Ralph Waldo Emerson." By Richard Garnett, LL.D. Great Writers Series. (London: Walter Scott. 1888.)
"Studies, New and Old." By W. L. Courtney. M.A., LL.D. (London: Chapman and Hall. 1888.)

OCCASIONAL NOTES.

Mr. Gladstone's political speech at Hawarden was chiefly interesting—apart from its vehement eloquence—for his vindication of Mr. Parnell's action in the Scotch courts. Mr. Gladstone is clearly convinced—as the *Freeman's Journal* and Archbishop Walsh are—that Mr. Parnell has discovered the missing clue to the origin of the famous letters, and that he will be able to prove exactly how the *Times* was either hoodwinked or an accomplice in the "forgery." If this be so, Mr. Parnell's legal action is only what he always announced as his intention, and it will have the advantage of securing the punishment of the *Times* for "a wicked and outrageous wrong." The *Times* has already given notice that it will do all it can to baulk the Scotch action. It will be necessary, therefore, to watch very closely the preliminary proceedings of the English Commission. The way in which the judges deal with the "forged letters" will be a touchstone of their fairness.

There was an interesting piece of autobiography in Mr. Gladstone's first speech to the Burslem Liberals yesterday. Referring to the Bulgarian atrocities agitation, he said:—

After the Session of Parliament I thought it was all up with the cause for a time. I knew it would revive, and I thought it would revive in the next Session; but I gave it up for the moment until I saw in the newspapers by accident that the working men of England were going to meet in London on the subject of it. I said to myself that moment, "Then it is alive." Seeing that it was alive I did what I could, and we all did what we could; and we stirred the country to such an extent that if the Government had dissolved Parliament at that moment I do not believe there would have been a hundred men returned to support its policy.

The whole success of the Bulgarian agitation is thus ascribed by Mr. Gladstone to a meeting of the working men in London! It is a remarkable tribute to the power of public meetings. The present Tory Government, in denying the right of such meeting, and in shutting up the most effective meeting place, has been wise in its generation.

We confess we do not like the look of things in Sikkim. Lord Dufferin is leaving India with evil legacies of his Viceroyalty; Burmah seething with irrepressible insurrection; and a Chinese war on our hands on the borders of Thibet. The *Times* correspondent at Calcutta says:—

It would appear from recent events that China is powerless to exert any effectual authority in Thibet. The arrival of the Chinese Ambassador at Lhasa apparently rather stimulated the Thibetan Government than otherwise to more strenuous war preparations, and to have been regarded at Lhasa as an expected signal for an immediate endeavour to drive the British troops out of Sikkim.

O sancta simplicitas! Surely the sudden stimulus applied to the Thibetan Government by the Chinese Ambassador can hardly be regarded as a proof of the powerlessness of China to exert any effectual authority in Thibet. To most people it seems to prove that the authority of China is only too real at Lhasa.

Whether brewers swindle publicans or not, they make huge profits. Yesterday Guinness divided 15 per cent. on the year's working, the net profit after making allowance for bad debts being £790,930. In addition to the dividend, £49,000 was carried forward, £30,000 transferred to the depreciation fund, and £150,000 to the reserve fund. If Mr. Morton Frewen is right when he contends that instead of nationalizing the land, which barely pays 2 per cent., we should nationalize the quasi-monopolies which pay 10 to 15 per cent., we certainly should begin with Guinness.

Mr. Harris's patriotic play is not to be called "The Spanish Armada," but "Hearts of Oak." Is it possible that there are no prior claimants to that title? Should any present themselves, Mr. Harris might fall back upon another old title—so old as to have become common property. It was in 1795 that a play, not dealing with the Armada, was produced at Covent Garden under the name of "England Preserved." As "Venice Preserved" still held the stage in those times, the title was then a capital one—better than the play, it appears, which was quickly forgotten. Nowadays not one playgoer in ten has ever heard of "Venice Preserved," so that "England Preserved" would have to stand on its own inherent appropriateness. Perhaps the irreverent gallery boy, on seeing the posters, might be inclined to exclaim, "O pickles!"

A pretty scene may sometimes be witnessed in the courts off Drury-lane and in the purlieus of Clare-market that suggests that the teaching of dancing in the theatres gives pleasure to others besides the spectators. In these crowded and generally dirty streets whenever a barrel-organ strikes up half-a-dozen children are sure to begin dancing to the music, keeping excellent time and step. If the weather is fine there may be quite a crowd of dancers and onlookers, as there was the other day not twenty yards from the Strand. Six little children were dancing in the centre of the roadway, while their elders were doing a step on the side walk. One old lady,

who must have been well on the shady side of fifty, was moving about with a sprightliness and *entrain* which might rather have been expected on the boards of the Albambra than on the pavement of White Hart-street. It is a pity that more is not done to draw out the latent merriment in English folk. We are said to be a sad people; but the fun is in us, and only wants helping out. We might do worse than add a new branch to our scheme of national education and teach our people how to amuse themselves.

The South African mails bring details of the debate in the House of Assembly—if debate it may be called where all the speakers were on the same side—in favour of making the Imperial High Commissionership of South Africa the perquisite of the Cape Ministry. We suppose the Colonists will have to have their way. Only in that case the limits of the jurisdiction of the Imperial High Commissioner must be bounded by the northern limits of the Cape Colony. From "South Africa," Zululand and Natal are already excluded, and it will not be a great extension of this principle to lay down the definition that South Africa terminates at the northern boundary line of Basutoland and the Cape Colony.

This Burmese trouble is developing into a very serious danger to the Empire. Our high-handed coercionists with their determination to make examples by levying heavy fines on innocent and guilty natives, seem to have driven the whole population into determined hostility to their conquerors. Says the *Times* correspondent at Rangoon:—

The most serious feature in connection with the recent attack on the railway is that nearly all the people concerned are villagers, hitherto known as respectable men and unconnected with dacoits or bad characters. They appear to have been driven to make the attack by the indiscriminate imposition of punitive taxes by the Deputy Commissioner.

We seem to be making dacoits of the whole population of Upper Burmah.

Some Cheshire farmers have, it seems, a pleasant habit of working their men in the hayfield all day, and then of sending them with carts into Manchester at night. Of course the poor fellows fall asleep on the road, and then they are summoned to the petty sessions and fined for sleeping when in charge of a vehicle on the highway. The night before last one of these sleepers fell off and was killed. Ought not his master to be indicted for manslaughter? Even the chairman of the Altrincham bench was constrained to say that the conduct of the masters was inexplicable. Alas! is it not only too easily capable of explanation? There seems to be literally no limit to the extent to which man will prey upon his brother man if his victim is but weak and defenceless. Without an organization for self-defence the poor are liable to be eaten up piece-meal by the well-to-do.

"All that has happened," says the *Standard*, in whittling away the significance of General Boulanger's treble event, "is that anti-Republican seats have been carried by a man who is eager to advertise himself." But, as we pointed out yesterday, this is by no means all. General Boulanger has not only carried anti-Republican seats, but carried them by greatly increased majorities. In the Nord, indeed, he has lost ground since April, but the following figures will show how the case stands in the Somme and Charente Inférieure:—

	Republican Minority.	
	1885.	1888.
Charente	561	15,068
Somme	115	34,723

By all means, let us "not lose our heads" over General Boulanger's successes; but how will it help us to do that to forget the facts?

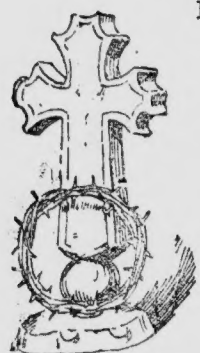
The Republican papers, meanwhile, have received a thorough shock from the elections, but we cannot see that it has taught them much wisdom: "Republican concentration," says the *Temps*, echoing the general voice, will defeat Boulanger yet. But where is the concentration to come from? The *Temps* itself does not begin it, for it immediately goes on to attack the Radicals. The Radicals retort by ascribing all the mischief to the Opportunists, and so on throughout the eight or ten fractions into which the united Republicans are split. This hardly looks as if the sanguine anticipation of the *Daily News* correspondent would be realized, and the "election of General Boulanger strengthen M. Floquet."

"It is not worthy of the working men of England," said Mr. Gladstone to the Staffordshire potters, "to put in the way of women bars and hindrances to their attaining excellence." Mr. Gladstone is right; but bars or no bars, the next generation of the women of England seem bent on "attaining excellence" in every sphere of activity. Already they have beaten the young men at Cambridge in learning, and now they are beginning to beat records in athleticism. Miss Flossie Morse is

unquestionably the only child of thirteen who has ever reached the summit of Mont Blanc in a single day, and her feat is an astonishing instance of pluck and endurance. Grudging critics of the other sex will say, we suppose, that it is only fair that girls should "score" somewhere from being such "light weights."

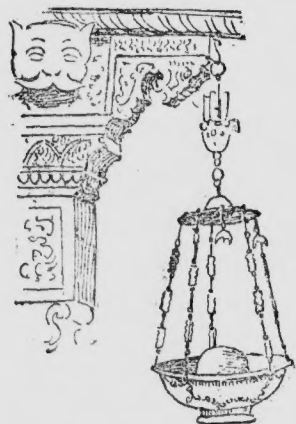
COLLECTED IN THE "SUNBEAM."

THE "LADY BRASSEY" MUSEUM.—I.



After the Commune.
A Relic
from Père Lachaise.

Normanhurst. As years rolled on and the collection increased, it occurred to Lady Brassey that instead of being scattered here and there, it would be well to bring it together under one roof, and to arrange it in some sort of order. The remarkable museum, of which this is a brief account, is the result. It is built on the ground formerly occupied by the stables, the original idea being



A HANGING LAMP.



SUGGESTION FOR A PENNY
TOY.

to construct a ballroom in the same style of architecture as the rest of the house. Lady Brassey was, however, much struck with the Durbar Room at the Colonial Exhibition, and the carved-wood screens exhibited there, and she wished her new rooms to be of that style, with a gallery made to form a museum of the principal objects collected during many *Sunbeam* voyages. The carved screens and doorways were purchased, and after some negotiations the Durbar Hall itself was bought for £1,500 without the lamps and fittings, which were



NOSE RINGS.

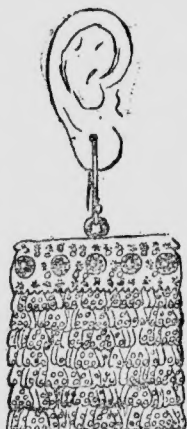


A TRIFLE HEAVY.

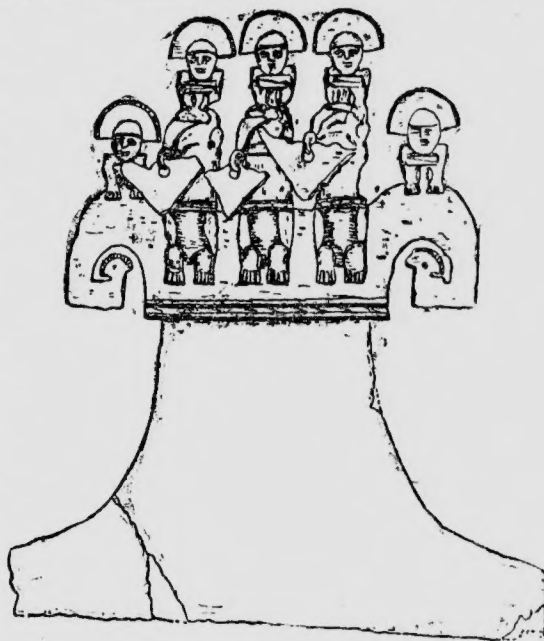


A SAVAGE BELLE'S
DRESS.
(About quarter size.)

Imagine a square, lofty room, with walls of delicately carved screens, lighted by stained glass windows by day and by night by the soft glow of electricity. Above it runs a gallery, which is reached by a richly carved staircase. Then you have some idea of the appearance of the ball-room, which occupies the lower half of the shrine which has been built to the memory of Lady Brassey. Two natives of the Bhera Shahpur district, in the Punjab, carved many of the panels, and their names, Mohammed Baksh and Juma, are graven in Persian cha-



racters on the panel over the central window. The style is taken from the most part from that of the carved woodwork used in the fronts and interiors of houses in the Punjab. The carved doors and doorway leading into the street come from Seharampore; the columns and panels in the upper gallery are partly Hindoo Mahomedan work, whilst the lanterns which swing from the carved ceiling are of Indian and Persian design, and of solid brass. So much for the ball-room. The museum itself is, as I have said, reached by



AN IDOL.



THE DERELICT.

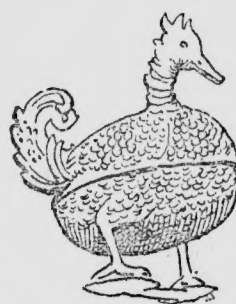


THE FUEGIAN CANOE.

Lady Brassey had the greatest dislike to uniformity, and there has been no attempt made at a scientific classification of this unique private collection. Effect was the object of the gentlemen who had to supervise the arrangement, and the moment one steps into the gallery and takes in the surroundings he sees how successfully their object has been attained. Round the room runs a series of glass-fronted cases, all beautifully carved. Borneo, Japan, China, India, Australia, Cyprus, the South Sea Islands, are all represented by extensive collections. Look above you, and you see that the ceilings bristle with curious trophies which have been most ingeniously hung so as to heighten the effect. Concealed within the recesses of exquisitely shaped shells attached to the ceiling are numerous electric lights, which give a most beautiful effect when turned on. The same method of shell-lighting has also been adopted within the cases, even the lovely sprays of coral being tipped with electric fire. It is easy to imagine the fairy-like beauty of the effect when the whole of the museum is illuminated. Passing through the grotesque door which once led into a Thibetan monastery, and along a passage in which are hung Mr. Pritchett's delightful sketches for the illustrations to the "Roaring Forties," one comes into the Museum library, which contains the eighty huge scrap books containing a unique collection of photographs; the originals of Lady Brassey's journals; her very large collection of cuttings and autograph letters. Two gilt Brahmin ducks stand in conspicuous positions, the duck



SOUTH AMERICAN
SPUR.



THE BRAHMIN DUCK.

valuable relics they may possess. To-morrow we shall give some description of the contents of the cases, with a number of illustrations.

a richly-carved staircase, part of which is already hidden by various exhibits. On the left the eye is immediately arrested by a heterogeneous fleet of little models of curious ships. Here is a little derelict, brown and weatherbeaten, a child's boat, which was picked up by the *Sunbeam* in mid-ocean. Here are Chinese junks, Fuegian canoes, and all manner of queer contrivances for sailing the sea. Let into the wall at the top of the staircase is a wonderfully beautiful case, in which the chief object of interest is a duck-billed platypus, an Australian animal with webbed feet and furry coat, which is surrounded by gloriously plumaged birds of paradise, perched in the most natural manner among the leaves of a miniature jungle and water hole.

enjoying a very sacred character among the Hindoos. According to the legend, two lovers, on account of some indiscretion, were, appropriately, transformed into ducks. They were condemned to pass their nights apart, a broad river running between them. Throughout the long, dark hours of the night the one continued to call to the other to come across, only receiving No for an answer. "Chakwa, shall I come across?" "No, Chakwi." "Chakwi, shall I come across?" "No, Chakwa." The Burmese, by the way, consider the duck as their household god, in whose interior are deposited the most

A NEW CANDIDATE FOR THE NEW WIMBLEDON.

A BIRMINGHAM correspondent writes:—It seems that Cannock Chase is not to be the only Midlands candidate for the N.R.A.'s "New Wimbledon." The latest candidate is Sutton Park, a large open space, near the old town of Sutton Coldfield, at a 7½d. fare, third class, from Birmingham. There the Birmingham and the Sutton volunteers annually exercise. Colonel Burt, lately of the 1st Warwickshire Volunteers, is a member of the council of the National Rifle Association, and gives Sutton his support as being "unsurpassed" for the required purpose. It is said that his opinion is supported by other officers acquainted with the ground. The portion of the land actually suggested for the future Wimbledon is a long arm of clear space about two miles long, and ranging in width from 700 yards at its narrowest end to 1,100 yards at the broadest extremity, and bordered on one side by Rowton ridge and on the other by a road. The area available would be quite as large and as convenient as that at Wimbledon. As far as the considerations of light and wind, room for pool targets, the running man, and running deer, and the Loyd-Lindsay competitions are concerned, Sutton Park is claimed to be everything that can be desired. Other advantages are to be found in the nearness of the road, the close proximity of the railway—there are two companies' lines—the availability of a good supply of good water, and the dryness of the land—even in the past damp weather the ground has been throughout in good condition. Already Earl Spencer, Sir Henry Halford, and Colonel Humphrey have had the claims of Sutton Park brought before them, and it is anticipated that within the next few weeks the council of the N.R.A., or some of its members, may be induced to personally inspect the most lately suggested New Wimbledon. There is one thing in which Sutton Park will be able to hold its own unrivalled. The piece of ground in question is geographically right in the centre of England.

COWS AND CONSUMPTION.

THE DANGERS OF DRINKING MILK.

Many of our readers have doubtless been alarmed by the conclusion at which the International Tuberculosis Conference, sitting in Paris, arrived the other day, namely, that "consumption is an infectious disease communicated to man by the use of cow's milk and beef." Many eminent authorities do not concur in this finding; but, on the other hand, here is what is said in favour of it by Professor Law, the chief of the cattle inspection department in the United States. In the course of an interview published by the *New York Herald*, he said:—

CONSUMPTION "CATCHING."

"The public have no idea of the overwhelming importance of the subject. A case of yellow fever or small-pox occurs and instantly there is a call for seclusion, quarantine and all possible sanitary safeguards, while in every street, in every tenement house, and in nearly every stable, we find the victims of this contagion which is slaying our population by the tens and hundreds of thousands yearly. In cattle I have seen the introduction of a tuberculous animal infect a whole herd of sixty head in a few years. The many and varied experiments of Gerlach and others showing the communication of the disease from animal to animal by the use of the diseased meat and milk, the direct experiments of Villimin and his followers in the production of the disease by inoculation, and the culture experiments of Koch and his successors, in which the bacillus was grown on pieces of bread, potato, etc., and transferred from these to the animal system, leave nothing to be desired in the way of proof. I have on one occasion found a tuberculous family in Brooklyn living largely on the milk of their tuberculous cow. In another case an invalid lady began to improve and gain in strength when she gave up using the milk of a tuberculous cow; and perhaps the most striking case in my experience, in a large public institution, where more than half the dairy cows were tuberculous, a much larger proportion of the human inmates were found to be the victims of this disease than in in other similar institutions elsewhere."

WHY COWS CONTRACT CONSUMPTION.

The cow has certainly an unenviable reputation in tuberculosis. It prevails largely in countries where cattle are abundant; in all the agricultural countries of Central and Southern Europe, in Algiers, Australia, Tasmania, New Zealand, the United States, Canada, and the Pampas, whereas it is comparatively rare in the Hebrides, Iceland, and the northern parts of Norway, Sweden, Lapland, and Finland. Dairy cows are usually fed in a manner to solicit the largest possible yield of milk, and this with little consideration as to whether such diet is fully adapted to nourish and invigorate the system. Moreover, they are called upon to maintain this milk yield as long as possible, without a consideration that they are at the same time carrying a calf, and under this double drain the vigour of the system is undermined and it becomes an easy prey to the tubercle bacillus. The temperature of the cow is *per excellence* the temperature which is favourable to the growth and propagation of the bacillus—102 deg. Fahrenheit, or a little over, internally. Other things being equal, therefore, the temperature of the cow renders the system more favourable to the growth of this disease germ than does that of man, 98.5 deg.; of the horse, 99.5 deg.; or of the dog, 99.5 deg.

PREVENTIVE MEASURES.

In view of the daily danger thus involved in drinking milk, Professor Law was asked how he proposed to minimize it. He replied:—

There must be inspection of the dairy herds furnishing it. A microscopic or chemical analysis of the milk is not enough, as the bacillus is found only with the greatest difficulty in this fluid, and the infection of a dyspeptic child may attest its presence when thousands of microscopic tests of the same glass have been made in vain. Milk brought from a greater distance, and which has passed through the process of boiling or condensation, is practically safe, as the germ is destroyed by the heat. It is the fresh milk and, above all, the warm milk that is dangerous. From a herd of cattle, any of which has a cough, a nasal discharge, or an enlarged gland, a little of the product may be taken for microscopic examination, and the status of such herd or animal may be determined by the result. From the attendants on such a herd any one with a cough or expectoration may be tested in the same way; and if the bacillus is found, prudence would suggest that he be removed from a position which makes him a source of danger to the community. To protect the milk consumers it is essential to expel all but sound cows and sound attendants.

At Home and Abroad.

Cholera is very active in the Punjab. Every precaution is being adopted to guard against the spreading of the disease.

Cholera is also very bad in the Tharrawaddy district of Burma. At a village called Tapun, comprising 340 houses, 170 deaths have occurred.

Mr. Seth Green, the pioneer of fish culture in America, died at Rochester, U.S. yesterday, of paralysis of the brain.

The Viceroy of India will return to Calcutta on December 1, and await the arrival of the Marquis of Lansdowne on the 10th, and will start for Europe the same evening.

The Indian Government has been strongly urged by the local Government to despatch a punitive expedition to the Chittagong Hills. Numerous raids into British territory are anticipated from the existing restlessness of the tribes.

Signor Crispi has officially announced to the members of the Italian Parliament the approaching marriage of the Duke d'Aosta with the Princess Letizia Bonaparte, which will take place on the 11th of September.

Contrary to recent newspaper reports announcing the early arrival of the Shah of Persia at Baku, it is stated that his Majesty will not come to Europe until next year, after the opening of the Universal Exhibition in Paris.

The Norwegian steamer *Liberta*, from New York for Stettin, ran on White Island, on the coast of Nova Scotia, on Sunday night, and became a total wreck. The crew were saved.

It is believed that the man Wright, who confessed to the murder of Mrs. Squires and her daughter in Hoxton in 1872 has told the police a deliberate falsehood, and that he was not concerned in the crime at all.

It is semi-officially stated that the extraordinary speech delivered by the Emperor William on the occasion of the unveiling of the statue of the Red Prince at Frankfurt-on-the-Oder, was directed against Danish, Alsatian, and Polish aspirations.

In Vatican circles it is still doubted (says a Rome correspondent) whether the Pope will receive the Emperor William when he comes to visit King Humbert. His Holiness will, doubtless, receive his Majesty if he accepts the formalities which the etiquette of the Vatican imposes.

The shipowning industry of Nova Scotia and New Brunswick have combined to force the Government to bring in legislation next session to prevent sending to sea large timber rafts such as were recently sent from Joggings to New York.

The summonses taken out against Colonel Turner and other officials for alleged illegal evictions on the Vandeleur estate came on for hearing at the Kilkee sessions yesterday, when the magistrates held that the defendants had acted rightly, and dismissed the summonses.

Captain H. B. Beckett, a well-known amateur whip, was summoned before the Canterbury magistrates yesterday for driving the Margate and Canterbury coach Champion at a furious pace through Wincheap-street on the previous Monday evening. The summons was dismissed.

Peter Dunn and David Thoburn, chief and second engineer of the steamer *Henry*, which arrived from Bilbao, with iron ore, were committed at Port Glasgow yesterday for trial, on a charge of stealing 100 gallons of claret, while the steamer was on the voyage from Algiers to Antwerp.

An inquest was held at Spalding yesterday touching the death of Edward Green, of Maxey, who was drowned while bathing at Spalding on Sunday. He was in the water with a companion, and was seized with cramp and sank. His companion was nearly drowned while attempting his rescue.

Mr. G. E. Hillman held an inquest yesterday, at Eastbourne, on the body of a man, aged about thirty, found in the sea near Beachy Head. He was wearing naval boots and a Cardigan jacket. He is unknown in the locality, and an open verdict was returned.

The Naval Manœuvres came to a close at noon yesterday. Admiral Tryon's Squadron coming from Bantry Bay steered well to the southward in order to avoid Admiral Baird's fleet, and, arriving at Portland in the afternoon, there separated. Admiral Baird's Fleet steamed past Dover, and proceeded to the ports assigned to the several vessels.

The Empress of Austria on Sunday called on Mdme. Wagner, Richard Wagner's widow, at Bayreuth, and visited the tombs of Liszt and Jean Paul in the cemetery. Her Majesty has gone to Munich and on the 26th will repair to Tegernsee, where she will be joined by the Emperor, who is going to visit the Empress's venerable parents on the occasion of their diamond wedding.

A gateman named Wallace, employed at the Clyde Ironworks, Toll Cross, near Glasgow, saw a man named Conley crossing a hedge into the works yesterday afternoon. He ordered him off, whereupon, it is said, Conley attacked him with his fists and feet. Wallace either fell, or was thrown, over a steep embankment, his neck being broken in the fall.

Martin Vignoles Brabazon, a medical student, was charged at the Guildhall police-court yesterday with having, by false pretences, obtained from Mr. J. T. Rossiter, solicitor, the sum of £135. It is alleged that the accused falsely represented that he was entitled to the reversionary interest of £2,900, and that the reversion was unencumbered. The case was adjourned.

The delegates of the Young Men's Christian Association assembled in conference at Stockholm were entertained yesterday at luncheon by the King and Queen of Sweden at Drottningholm Castle. The Crown Prince received the guests. The principal representatives and secretaries were introduced. The Crown Prince expressed his earnest sympathy with their work.

William Luntton Pryor, thirty-seven, commercial traveller, formerly of Bethnal-green-road, London, was remanded at Leeds, yesterday, for a week, charged with having embezzled sums of money belonging to Messrs. Pitty and Sons, of Leeds, printers. The prisoner, it appeared, had been travelling for a firm in the South of England, but absconded a year ago to America. Last week he returned to London, and was apprehended.

The strike at South Hetton Colliery, Durham, by which nearly 4,000 men and boys are idle, still continues. The men state that until their alleged grievances are redressed they will not return to work. South Hetton Colliery has not been worked since Friday last, and Murton Colliery followed their example yesterday. Both collieries belong to the Murton and Co. Hetton Coal Company (Limited).

At Westminster police-court yesterday, the Comptroller of the Savings Bank Department of the General Post-office was summoned by Mr. W. Collis, superintendent relieving officer of St. George's, Hanover-square, to pay £73 6s. 8d., the savings of Jane Elizabeth Craft, a pauper lunatic, sent to Hanwell Asylum in 1873, where she has been supported by the parish at a cost of about £350. After hearing the evidence an order was made to pay the money to the guardians.

THE PROSPECTS OF ANOTHER FRONTIER WAR.

EXPECTED ATTACK BY THE THIBETANS TO-DAY.

Our quarrel with Thibet is assuming a more serious aspect, and promises, unless the invaders are soon severely defeated and thence expelled from Sikkim, to develop into a frontier war of no inconsiderable importance. This matter, which at first was but of trifling moment, has developed now into the most important political question in India, as it involves not only our relations with all the Eastern frontier States, but the wider issues of our relations with China.

It is reported that the Thibetan levies now amount to some 15,000, and that an auxiliary force of 3,000 Bluteas are prepared to support them as military allies in an attack upon our entrenchments. It is rumoured that this attack will be delivered on the 21st, so as to anticipate the arrival of reinforcements. Should the enemy prove successful by sheer force of vastly superior numbers in rushing Gnatong by a night attack it is just possible they might swarm into Darjeeling, as, save for a handful of Goorkha police, Darjeeling has been entirely denuded of military protection. A large number of women and children reside there, and the result of advancing the whole garrison to the front has induced temporary panic. This was somewhat increased by the arrest in the station itself of two Thibetan spies. However, orders have now been issued to replace the garrison by 100 men of the Derbyshire Regiment from Dum Dum.

The Thibetan force is threatening an advance on Entchi, which is situated in the heart of Sikkim, and is the present residence of the Rajah. A party has crossed the Nathula Pass and pushed on to Lagyapla, on the Entchi road. The enemy has been engaged in erecting fortified walls in all directions. In the meantime, as a counter movement, a road from Rhenock Bazaar to Patoyoung has been opened out by the pioneers. From this point Entchi is easily accessible. Reinforcements, 700 strong, are on their way to Sikkim. Colonel Graham's original force of 1,600 men has been increased by 275 Europeans and four guns. On the arrival of the reinforcements his command will be increased to 2,300 and eight guns. Gnatong will be garrisoned out of this force by 500 English, 500 Goorkhas, and 500 Pioneers.

THE QUEEN OF SERVIA AND HER HUSBAND.

The Vienna correspondent of the *Times* has only just discovered what we announced on the highest authority some time ago, that the rumours as to a possible reconciliation between the King and Queen of Servia must be definitely accepted as inventions. An authoritative announcement from Belgrade states that the divorce suit will follow its course. The Queen will be represented before the Consistorial Court by counsel, and will be allowed to put in written depositions.

M. PASTEUR AND INOCULATION FOR CHOLERA.

M. Pasteur read yesterday afternoon to the French Academy of Sciences a long paper by Dr. Gamaleid, of Odessa, on the cure of cholera by inoculation. It appears that in 1886 Dr. Gamaleid came to Paris as delegate of the Odessa doctors, and studied the Pasteur method, with which he made himself thoroughly acquainted. On his return to Russia various institutions were founded under his care for the cure of hydrophobia, which have proved very valuable. Five years ago M. Pasteur endeavoured to discover a means of curing cholera by inoculation. At his request a mission was sent by the French Government to Alexandria, while cholera prevailed there, to study the subject. Dr. Lhuiller, one of the mission, died of cholera, and M. Pasteur did not press the continuance of the investigations. The subject, however, was taken up by Dr. Gamaleid, who has discovered a method similar to that of M. Pasteur, by which it is believed cholera can be cured by the inoculation of the cholera virus. As yet experiments have only been made on animals, but no doubt is entertained that it will be possible to apply in a short time the same process to man.

FOREST FIRES ON THE ITALIAN FRONTIER.

A telegram from Trieste states that a fire broke out some days ago in a forest of the Trentino on the Italian frontier, and has now assumed formidable proportions. All efforts to check the progress of the flames have failed: the mountain forests of Castelberto, Dosso, and Ronchi are said to have been completely destroyed, and several villages have been burned. The flames are still spreading, and detachments of gendarmes and firemen have been sent from all the country round to fell trees and isolate the fire. It is believed that the mischief was caused by smugglers, who set fire to the woods out of revenge.

THE INDIAN GOVERNMENT AND THE NATIVE STATES.

In connection with the offers of military aid recently made by several native States, the Indian Government proposes (a Simla telegram says) to ask the chiefs to maintain a small properly equipped force. Several officers from native States will shortly arrive there in order to discuss the matter.

THE ENGLISH FOOTBALL TEAM AT THE ANTIPODES.

The English football team yesterday played a match at Brisbane against a fifteen of Queensland. The Englishmen were victorious, with three goals and four tries against two goals scored by the colonists. Mr. A. E. Stoddart has been elected captain of the English team in place of the late Mr. R. L. Seddon, who was recently drowned.

STILL TROUBLED TIMES IN BURMAH.

The last official bulletin from Upper Burmah reports numerous petty affairs with dacoits. In Kyaukse a large dacoit gang is giving trouble. Fifty of the military police, commanded by Superintendent Annesley, had a sharp encounter near Beelin with 300 dacoits, commanded by the Setkya Prince, an Alompra pretender. The police drove the dacoits from three small stockades, with a loss of twelve killed. The dacoits then occupied a strong stockade on a hill whence the police were unable to dislodge them and retired. The police loss was two killed and six wounded. A reinforcement of a hundred military police was sent to Superintendent Annesley.

The Tharrawaddy district continues in a very unsatisfactory condition. Renewed attempts are anticipated to cut the railway line to Prome, near Zeegon, the scene of the late outrage. The line is strongly guarded, and at night is patrolled by numerous parties of police under European inspectors. The most serious feature in connection with the recent attack on the railway is that nearly all the people concerned are villagers, hitherto known as respectable men and unconnected with dacoits or bad characters. They appear to have been driven to make the attack by the indiscriminate imposition of punitive taxes by the Deputy Commissioner.

C. BRANDAUER and CO.'s Circular Pointed Pens write as smoothly as a lead pencil, and neither scratch nor spurt, the points being rounded by a new process. Seven Prize Medals awarded. Assorted sample box 6d., post free for 7 stamps from C. Brandauer and Co.'s Pen Works, Birmingham.

THE GREAT BOND ROBBERY IN THE CITY.

CAPTURE OF THE THIEF.—RECOVERY OF THE BONDS.

The police have at last succeeded in recovering the whole of the £10,000 in bonds which were stolen in the City on the 28th of October, and in capturing a man who has confessed the theft. The mysterious manner in which the robbery was effected in broad daylight excited at the time much speculation as to the veracity of the statement made by the lad from whom the bonds were stolen. This youth, James Watson, employed by Messrs. Wilson and Sons, stock and share dealers, of Cornhill, was entrusted with a black bag containing Uruguay and Ohio and Mississippi Bonds, valued at £10,800, and when leaving the premises of Messrs. George Cawston and Co., stockjobbers, in Hatton-court, Threadneedle-street, about noon, he was, he said, attacked by a man about forty years of age, on the stairs, who stole the bag and attempted to cut his throat. The detectives traced the stolen bonds to a money-changer's in the Strand, but there their clue ended. A reward of £1,000 was offered for the recovery of the bonds by Messrs. M. Abrahams, Sons and Co., solicitors to Messrs. Wilson and Sons.

HOW THE ARREST WAS EFFECTED.

On Saturday last the secretary of the Ohio and Mississippi Railway Company cabled to Messrs. Abrahams the fact that some of the bonds had been presented for transfer. The bonds had been offered by a first-class New York broker, who stated that he had received them from a gentleman who had a "desk" in his office. This gentleman, on being questioned, said he had them from one "F. M. R. Casey, care of M'George, Winchester House, Old Broad-street, London." Following up the clue, Detective-sergeant Taylor, of the City police, set watch upon Winchester House during the remainder of Saturday, but without the desired result. Meanwhile, Messrs. Abrahams, Sons, and Co. had telegraphed for further particulars, and for an injunction to restrain dealing in the bonds. Early yesterday morning Sergeant Taylor, with his subordinates, resumed the watch at Winchester House just at the time when the postman was delivering a letter to Casey bearing the stamp of the above-mentioned firm of brokers in America. Subsequently Casey left Mr. M'George's office, where he was in the habit of receiving his letters. Detective-sergeant Taylor and Detective Roper followed him until twelve o'clock. They were in the vicinity of Moorgate-street, when Taylor stopped him and asked for particulars of the Ohio and Mississippi Bonds. Casey denied any knowledge of these or any other stock. Taylor requested Casey to accompany him and Detective Roper to Messrs. Michael Abrahams' offices in Old Jewry, where Mr. H. G. Abrahams required from Casey an explanation as to how the stolen bonds had come into his possession. He stoutly denied any knowledge of the bonds or of the robbery. Mr. H. G. Abrahams ordered Detective-sergeant Taylor to put the man under arrest.

A FULL CONFESSION.

Accused turned deadly pale, and voluntarily made a full confession, which was taken down in writing. It was to the following effect:—"I, and I alone, was the perpetrator of the robbery." He went on to state that he had some time since been speculating with John Abbott, an outside broker, and that through these speculations he had been ruined. "I was," he continued, "driven to starvation, and became a desperate man. I happened to be in Hatton-court on the morning of the 28th October last, when I saw a boy with a black bag containing the bonds coming down the steps of Mr. Cawston's office. I snatched it from him and bolted. I immediately tried to change the coupons to cash at a money-changer's in the Strand, and then returned to my lodgings in Westmoreland-street, Bayswater. The bonds remained there until April last, when I gave the Ohio and Mississippi Bonds to a New York broker as cover for transactions I was to have with him. The Uruguay Bonds (£7,000) remain at the present time in my drawer. I threw the black bag into the Thames from the Embankment, as Messrs. Wilson's name was upon it." Casey denied that he attempted to take the boy's life. He was thereupon taken to the Bishopsgate police-station, and charged with robbery with violence. The prisoner, who spoke with a strong American accent, said he was forty-eight years of age, and that he was an Englishman born in Essex. He did not make any reply when the charge was read over to him. Detective-sergeant Taylor then went to Casey's lodgings, and there found the Uruguay bonds intact. Casey will be brought before the presiding magistrate at the Guildhall police-court to-day. At a late hour last evening Messrs. Michael Abrahams, Sons, and Co. received from their New York agents a message stating that all the remaining bonds had been handed over to them on behalf of Messrs. Wilson and Sons. Thus the whole of the stolen property, including coupons, has been recovered.

CARDINAL MANNING ON TEMPERANCE.

The annual festival of the Total Abstinence League of the Cross was held yesterday at the Crystal Palace. Cardinal Manning presided over a crowded meeting of total abstinents held in the Opera Theatre. He said the temperance movement in England, of which the League of the Cross was a part, had proved stronger than the drink traffic, with all its influence and ramifications, because it had defeated the clauses of the Local Government Act which, had they passed, would have established an endowment of the drink trade. He believed that the total abstinents of England possessed a perseverance which could never be extinguished. He regretted that, as he was coming to the end of his life, he should not now be in this work so very long. He had endeavoured to promote temperance among his own flock, and amongst those who were not of it. It was a source of sorrow to him that he should have begun so late and done so little; but he hoped that for what period of his life remained he might be able to do some more. He looked to the reverend fathers around them that they should never allow the League to languish or grow weak. He hoped the young would fill up the gaps soon to be made in their ranks, and he looked to them to carry on the good work. In the midst of dwellings that were not fit for human habitation he knew that wherever there was a family of total abstinents there was a "home," even though it was one with a miserable roof, and narrow walls, in which they were compelled to live.

THE UNITED STATES DEBT.

The Philadelphia correspondent of the *Times* telegraphs:—Secretary Fairchild has directed that all bonds purchased by Government since July 1 be applied to the purposes of the sinking fund. The estimated requirements of that fund for the present fiscal year are 47,850,000 dols. The Secretary proposes to meet them by the purchase of bonds made under terms of the Circular of April 17. The total of bonds purchased to date under the Circular is 33,297,900 dols., of which 22,762,600 dols. are Four per Cents., and 10,535,300 dols. are Four-and-a-Half per Cents. The cost of these bonds was 28,941,928 dols. for the Four per Cents., and 11,341,355 dols. for the Four-and-a-Half per Cents.

NOTICE.

A Story of Modern Life, by Mr. Grant Allen, entitled "Dr. Palliser's Patient," was commenced in the PALL MALL GAZETTE yesterday, and will run from day to day until completed on Tuesday, August 28.

FOURTH EDITION.

(REUTER'S TELEGRAMS.)

THE SEIZURE OF BRITISH SHIPS IN BEHRING SEA.

VICTORIA (British Columbia), August 21.—The sale of the captured British sealing schooners at Port Townsend has been indefinitely postponed by order of Mr. Garland, the United States Attorney-General.

SIGNOR CRISPI.

FRANKFORT-ON-THE-MAIN, August 21.—Signor Crispi, accompanied by two secretaries, left at five minutes past nine this morning, via Bebra, Goettingen, and Hanover, for Hamburg, whence he will proceed this evening to Friedrichsruhe.

SEVERE STORMS IN THE UNITED STATES.

NEW YORK, August 21.—Severe storms have passed over the Southern States, attended with destructive effect at New Orleans, where fifty coal-boats have been sunk and the telegraph lines and railroads damaged.

TROUBLES AHEAD IN MADAGASCAR.

PARIS, August 21.—The *Voltairre* to-day states that M. Le Myre de Vilers, French Resident-General in Madagascar, will hasten his return to Antananarivo as since his departure for France an expedition has been prepared by the Hovas against the Sakalavas, whose security is guaranteed by the Franco-Hova treaty. It is added that a price has been placed on the heads of the Queen of the Sakalavas and the King of the Antankaras.

THE ORANGE FREE STATE.

CAPETOWN, August 20.—A special session of the Free State Volksraad has been opened, at which a resolution was adopted appointing the Government Secretary as Acting-President. At the same time Mr. Reitz was nominated as candidate for the Presidency.

DEATH OF MR. HENRY RICHARD, M.P.

Mr. Henry Richard, M.P., has died suddenly at Treborst, Bangor, the seat of the Lord-Lieutenant of Anglesey. Mr. Richard had been staying for some days past with Mr. Davis, Lord-Lieutenant of Anglesey. After dinner last night he complained of faintness and went to bed. He complained of being worse about midnight, when Drs. Richards and Roberts were summoned, but the hon. gentleman expired before they arrived. Death was due to heart disease.

Death has removed one of the most familiar of the good little men from the House of Commons. Henry Richard, short, stout, and somewhat prosaic as he was, cherished the soul of a crusader behind the outward appearance that spoke only of humdrum and commonplace. Henry Richard was a great warrior for peace. For more than the lifetime of a generation he did his little, in season and out of season, for the cause of peace as the Secretary of the Peace Society; and he had the satisfaction of seeing the cause of international arbitration, of which he was the champion in the House of Commons, win a place in the attention of the nations which was largely due to his energetic efforts. Mr. Richard had been a Congregationalist minister at the beginning of his career, and he preached to the end. He was as great a Liberationist as he was a Peace man; and Mr. Chamberlain on one occasion could find no more emphatic method of asserting at once the disinterested zeal and his Nonconformist enthusiasm than by asserting that he was altogether such a one as Henry Richard. Mr. Richard was seventy-seven years old. His death creates a vacancy for Merthyr, one of the safest Liberal seats in the three kingdoms. The last time it was contested was in 1880. The figures were:—Richard (L.), 8,033; James (L.), 7,526; Lewis (C.), 4,445.

THE WELSH TITHE WAR.

Great excitement prevails throughout the Meifod valley, Montgomeryshire, where the Dean and Chapter of Christ Church, Oxford, have seized ricks of hay and numerous cattle on several of the large farms for tithe arrears. The sales are announced to take place this week. Upwards of two hundred police were drafted into this district last year to enforce the sales, but the chief constable has promised to be in attendance alone during the forthcoming sales.

THE SHOOTING AT SHOEBOURNESS.

The forty-pounder Armstrong competition by the artillery volunteers was proceeded with at Shoebourness at nine this morning, in bad weather, the atmosphere being moist and heavy. The smoke from the guns consequently hung over the batteries. The firing was slow. The official scores of Monday's work were published this morning. As a proof of the general smartness of the eighty-one detachments which competed, it may be noted that only two exceeded the maximum time of ten minutes allowed for firing the four rounds, and only one other detachment completed its four rounds in 4 min. 39 sec. Three detachments were disqualified for neglecting specified rules laid down for firing.

ANOTHER TRIP IN A BALLOON.

Mr. Simmons, who ascended in the Cosmo with five passengers from the Irish Exhibition, anchored for the night in a field at Kimbleton, Huntingdonshire, and reascended at six o'clock this morning, going northwards. Rain poured in torrents. The professor went out of sight in a few minutes, but at ten minutes to eight o'clock landed at Ramsey, the wind then blowing towards the sea.

IRON AND STEEL INSTITUTE.

This morning the members of this institute opened their autumn congress in the University of Edinburgh. A reception was held early in the day by the Lord Provost of the city, at which most of the members attended. Thereafter the usual meeting was held; Mr. Daniel Adamson, president, in the chair. He moved that Sir James Kitson, Yorkshire, be appointed to the chair for the next year. This having been agreed to, Mr. Adamson said that as the exhibition was to be held in Paris next year it was thought desirable that the institute should meet there next year, and in America the following year. The institute then proceeded to elect members of council to supply vacancies which occurred during the year.

THE ELECTION OF GENERAL BOULANGER.

OPINION AT THE CAPITALS.

General Boulanger's election excites great surprise at Berlin. It was thought, writes the *Daily News* correspondent, that his downfall was complete. His present success is regarded as a proof that the French people are dissatisfied with the present state of affairs, and it causes here unmistakable anxiety. The *Vossische Zeitung* says that General Boulanger is no longer a personality. He is the embodiment of dissatisfaction with the inactivity of the Chambers, and of annoyance at the uncertain position of the French Republic. The *National Zeitung* ridicules the General, whom it calls Boulanger Trismegistus, to whom, as to Hermes Trismegistus, divine honours will soon be rendered. The papers speak of the poor consolation of the Republicans who explain the success of the General by declaring that only the Monarchists voted for him.

The triple electoral victory achieved by General Boulanger is commented upon by the Vienna press as an event of the utmost significance. By the *Abendpost* it is regarded as a crushing defeat for the existing régime, and the *Deutsche Zeitung* points out its importance is enhanced by the circumstance that it has been obtained in spite of the blunders recently committed by the aspiring Caesar, and which were supposed to have annihilated his prestige. The Vienna *Allgemeine* dwells upon the mistake of the Bonapartists in giving their help to General Boulanger. After electoral successes of such importance it is, in the opinion of that journal, highly improbable that the General will condescend to be the tool which Prince Victor and his adherents would make of him.

At Rome General Boulanger's election has produced a profound impression and is generally considered as a disquieting symptom. The Clerical press does not conceal its satisfaction at this result, which it considers as a defeat of the Republic. Even the cautious *Osservatore Romano* cannot refrain from alluding to the persecutions suffered by the Roman Catholic Church in France. The *Riforma* interprets the present elections as a protest against the commercial policy of the French Republic, which has tended to isolate it in Europe.

GREAT STORMS AND FLOODS IN AUSTRIA.

VILLAGES DESTROYED AND GREAT LOSS OF LIFE.

Several waterspouts, accompanied by lightning, visited different parts of Austria towards the end of last week, causing great damage to property and considerable loss of life. At the summer resort of Reichenau, not far from Vienna, for instance, two persons were drowned, while in Moravia, Carinthia, Upper Austria, and parts of Hungary the damage to the crops and other property is very great. Yesterday intelligence reached Vienna that several prosperous villages in Lower Austria, not far from Kloster Neuburg, and within thirty or forty miles of Vienna, have been almost entirely destroyed by the deluge of water that suddenly overwhelmed them. So rapidly did the floods rise that at one spot some Vienna excursionists and peasants who were overtaken by the storm while they were passing over a bridge across what is usually a mere rivulet were swept away, bridge and all, by the irresistible torrent into which the stream had instantly swollen. In a neighbouring village three more persons were drowned, while in a second place the loss of life was four and in a third eight persons, while over fifty persons, chiefly women and children, received serious injuries. More than 100 houses were also washed away or were completely wrecked by the fury of the elements, while numerous barns and granaries filled with the just-gathered harvest have been swept away.

THE MOTHER-IN-LAW.

A robust and voluble lady asked Mr. Sheil at the Dalston police-court to-day for a summons against her son-in-law. He called her a bad name, and she knocked his pipe out of his mouth. Mr. Sheil: You struck him first? Applicant: Yes. Mr. Sheil: Go away. I'll not grant a summons. There are too many rows with mothers-in-law already without you starting a fight.

ATTACK ON ENGLISH TOURISTS IN SPAIN.

Two English tourists, named Cotter and Mathison, who left Gibraltar on Saturday evening last with the object of visiting the Spanish lines, were at two o'clock on the following morning accosted by two Spaniards, demanding charity. This was readily given, but a further demand for alms was refused, whereupon the Spaniards assaulted the Englishmen with knives, and although the latter defended themselves with their sticks, Mr. Cotter was wounded in the thigh and hand. All were arrested yesterday, and the Englishmen were conducted under escort to San Roque. Subsequently they were liberated, having given security to the amount of £20 to appear next week.

Mr. Gladstone, who has been much interested in Mr. Wemyss Reid's "Life of Mr. Forster," is now engaged in writing a review of the work, which will appear in a forthcoming number of one of the monthlies.

The entry of the *Manchester Guardian* into Turkey has been forbidden.

Mr. W. H. Smith, M.P., and family left Charing Cross Station by Continental express train at eleven o'clock this morning, for Aix-les-Bains.

Mr. Cyril Flower, the Liberal Whip, started for a walking tour in Switzerland yesterday, accompanied by Mr. H. Asquith, M.P.

The *Cologne Gazette* of yesterday states that Prince Bismarck is about to resign the Ministry of Commerce of Prussia, which office he has for some time held in addition to the Chancellorship of the Empire and the Ministry of Foreign Affairs.

The statement that Mr. John Bright has gone to Llandudno is premature. Mr. Bright is slowly recovering from what has proved to be a serious illness, and he is still extremely weak. Even the gentle exercise of being wheeled about the garden in a bath chair exhausts him.

The town of Osnabrück has been visited by an extraordinary epidemic of ophthalmia militaris, which is particularly dreaded as leading, under certain conditions, to total blindness. A report received from the afflicted town states that hardly a house but has one at least of its inmates stricken.

The death is announced of Mr. William Eassie, C.E., F.L.S., F.G.S., &c., at his residence in South Hampstead on the 16th inst. He was honorary secretary of the Cremation Society, of which, in conjunction with Sir Henry Thompson and a few others, he was one of the founders in 1874. Mr. Eassie had a varied and useful career.

Yesterday marked the close of the proceedings in the International Chess Congress, Bradford, a consultation game being played between Blackburne and Bird, representing England, and Weiss and Bardeleben, representing the Continent. After a close contest lasting till far in the evening the game was drawn.

MR. PARNELL AND THE "TIMES."

Mr. Walter, Mr. J. C. Macdonald, and others of the editorial staff of the *Times*, are now in Edinburgh, in consultation with their legal advisers as to the course which they will pursue in defending the action brought by Mr. Parnell. Mr. George Lewis informed a representative of the Central News yesterday that the Parnell Commission would sit in open court on the 17th of September, when they meet to hear any application that may be made by the parties concerned. With regard to the action taken in Scotland against the *Times*, Mr. Lewis did not see any reason whatever why it should not be proceeded with, or that there was anything to prevent similar actions going on in any part of the United Kingdom. The sixth clause of the Charges and Allegations Act certainly gave the Commission power to indemnify persons giving evidence before them from any civil or criminal process in respect of the subject of their examination after the examination had taken place. But Mr. Parnell's Scotch action against the *Times* was actually commenced before the bill passed into law. There was not the slightest idea in taking the action of in any way hampering the investigation before the Royal Commission.

M. ZOLA ON THE VIZETELLY PROSECUTION.

The Paris correspondent of the *Daily News* telegraphs:—I spent part of the afternoon with M. Zola at his country retreat at Medan on the Dieppe line. The conversation turned naturally on the prosecution of his publisher in England. "You ask me how the news affects me," said M. Zola. "I answer, Not so much as the touch of a feather. I am astounded to read to-day that thousands of copies of my works have been sold in your country. I never got a halfpenny for any of them, except one, and for that I only got £80 out of a promised £120. As to the suppression of my works in America, I get no more from America than from England. In fact, less, for I get just nothing at all." "But," I asked the author, "the books being your creations, do you not feel an attack upon them as in a way an attack upon yourself?" "Ah, now you touch upon the moral question," replied M. Zola. "I was speaking of the monetary; but I care very little either way. I have the vice, in common with other Frenchmen, of being self-sufficing. If anything, I am glad of the prosecutions. They will rally friends round me in France. People will ask what business has England, with her Shakespeare, her Byron, her Fielding, to set up a puritanical standard in literature. It will be a test case. My enemies here will see that the condemnation of my works implies the condemnation of the whole of French literature."

ESCAPE OF THIRTEEN CROCODILES.

Some consternation has been created among the riverside population in the vicinity of Hamburg by the news that yesterday as many as thirteen crocodiles were enabled, through an oversight, to escape from on board a steamer just returned from Africa, whence they had been brought for sale to various Continental Zoological Gardens. These formidable reptiles are now all in the River Elbe.

A MUSIC HALL SINGER'S LIBEL CASE.

The London correspondent of the *Liverpool Mercury* writes:—A libel case more sensational than Mr. Parnell's is promised us. Miss Bessie Bellwood feels her reputation hurt by some reflections which have been cast upon the songs (their tone and decency) which she sings at various London music-halls. She is a lady; and when she is charged with permitting anything to escape her mouth on the public stage which ought not to issue therefrom, she acts as a lady should. She serves a writ on her accuser, and calls upon him to prove his charge. Some years ago a jury was empanelled which had to decide upon the "artistic merit" of a sculptor. Its task was regarded as a difficult one, but it is as nothing to what will fall to the lot of the twelve men and true whose duty it will be to judge of the delicacy and refinement of the high art of Miss Bessie Bellwood. Theatrical actions seem to abound, but none of them are so likely to be fraught with momentous consequences as this the newest of them.

REPORTS OF CRICKET MATCHES.

SURREY v. YORKSHIRE.

Owing to rain and other causes there was not a full day's cricket at Bradford. Surrey went in first, and when stumps were drawn had scored 326 for the loss of five wickets, the highest scorer being M. Read, who made 109.

SURREY.—First Innings.

Shuter, c Lee, b Preston	6	Key, not out	80
Abel, c Middlebrook, b Wade	60	Lohmann, not out	23
Bowden, c Middlebrook	34	Extras	13
W. W. Read, b Middlebrook	1		
M. Read, b Preston	109	Total	326

Wood, Beaumont, Henderson, and Bowley to go in.

THE AUSTRALIANS v. GLOUCESTERSHIRE.

At Cheltenham yesterday only an innings of the Australians was completed, as, owing to rain stumps were then drawn.

AUSTRALIANS.—First Innings.

McDonnell, c Pullen, b Roberts	38	Blackham, c Painter, b Peake	19
Bannerman, c Brain, b Roberts	12	Jarvis, b W. G. Grace	24
Trott, c Page, b Roberts	4	Worrall, not out	1
Edwards, c Radcliffe, b Peake	0	Ferris, b Roberts	4
Bonnor, c b Roberts	3	Extras	4
Turner, c Radcliffe, b Roberts	6		
Lyons, c Roberts, b Peake	3	Total	113

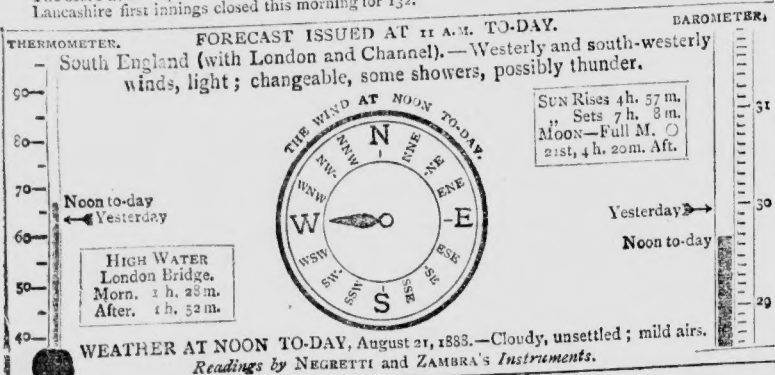
KENT v. MIDDLESEX.

When stumps were drawn last night at Gravesend, Middlesex had all the worst of the play, for while Kent made 203 in their first innings, Middlesex had lost seven wickets for 43 runs only.

Middlesex's first innings closed this morning for 93.

DERBY v. LANCASHIRE.

The score at Derby last night was:—Derbyshire, 171; Lancashire, 103 for seven wickets. Lancashire first innings closed this morning for 132.



THIS DAY'S MONEY MARKET.

Half-past One.

HOME RAILWAYS DULL.—FOREIGN STOCKS LIFELESS.—AMERICANS FIRM.

With the exception of the department for American Railroads, in which a little more activity is shown, the Stock Markets remain as quiet and featureless as ever. Home Government Funds are neglected and show practically no alteration; while in the Home Railway market the movements are insignificant. There has been a little selling in some directions owing to the less favourable weather, and the tendency is rather adverse. Foreign stocks are unchanged, pending the receipt of Continental advices, this market having for some time past now depended almost entirely upon the support afforded by Paris and Berlin. A further decline has taken place in the premium on gold at Buenos Ayres, which is now quoted at 4 to 10 per cent. This decline is probably due to the relief afforded to the market at that centre by the recent heavy shipments of gold from Europe. American Railroad securities are all higher, though some of the improvement marked took place after official hours in "the street" last night. The firmness of the market is due to the better advices from New York, where quotations were yesterday influenced by more favourable crop reports. Louisville and Nashville and Milwaukee and St. Paul show the chief advance. Grand Trunk of Canada stocks show scarcely any change, though the market is weak, but a few purchases have been made of Mexican Railway issues on the traffic, showing a take for the week of £16,700, an increase compared with the corresponding week last year of £2,500. Diamond Mining shares are flat, but Copper descriptions are steady.

There is a fair demand for money in the open market this morning in connection with instalments falling due on various new issues and preparations for the payment of the Great Northern Railway dividend, beside which there are the tenders for the new issue of Treasury Bills. The supply of cash, however, is tolerably good, and short loans are not worth more than 1½ per cent. The discount inquiry is again small, but the quotation for three months' bankers' acceptances is steady at 2½ per cent. During the next day or two it is expected that the Bank of England will receive a further large remittance of gold from Australia, and the predictions of an advance in the Bank's official minimum this week are not so confident as they were at the latter end of last week. An upward movement, however, would cause little or no surprise.

The Stock Market at New York yesterday opened strong, but traders and the Chicago party sold the list down fractionally. The Chicago party, however, afterwards became buyers, and with no pressure to sell, commission buying soon caused strength, and advances in prices ranging to 2¼ were made, Granger Coal and Gould Stocks being the most prominent. The market closed dull but firm, at about the best figures.

The following are the latest changes compared with yesterday's closing:—

In Home Railways.—Improved: Hull and Barnsley and Metropolitan ¼. Receded: Great Western ¼, Great Eastern, North Western and Midland ½ each.

Among Foreign Stocks.—Advanced: Uruguay Bonds ½. Declined: Turkish Group 4 ana Greek 1881 ¼, and Egyptian Unified 1-16.

American Railroads.—Improved: Louisville and Nashville, and Milwaukee and St. Paul 1, Lake Shore ¾, Northern Pacific Preference ¾, Union Pacific ¾, the Mortgage ¾, Philadelphia and Reading shares and Ohio and Mississippi Ordinary ½, Erie Second Mortgage ½, the shares ¾, Central Pacific, Missouri, Kansas, and Texas Norfolk and Western Preference and Ontario shares ¼, Denver Ordinary and New York Pennsylvania, and Ohio First Mortgage ½.

As regards Canadian and Foreign Railways.—Risen: Canada Pacific ½, Mexican Ordinary, First and Second Preference ¼. Lower: Grand Trunk First and Second Preference ¼, the Ordinary and Third Preference ½.

Hotchkiss Ordinary are up ½, Rio Tinto, and Mysore 1-16; but De Beers are down ¾, Kimberley Central ¼, Sprats ¼, and Ooregum 1-16.

LIVERPOOL COTTON MARKET.—The market continues quiet, without probable changes. Sales, 7,000. Imp r: since Friday 8,000, including 1,500 for export or speculation. Futures are steadier than at the opening, with sellers at one point and buyers at a point and a half below last night.

The following are this day's 1 o'clock prices of the principal Stocks and Shares:—

BRITISH FUNDS, ETC.		Brighton (Ordinary)	110	2	London and County	84½	5½
Consols	100½	Do. A.	124	¾	Union of London	34½	9½
New Consols 2½	99½	Chatham (Ordinary)	22½	3	London and W.	66	7
Reduced 3 p.c.	100½	Do. Preference	100½	1	London Joint Stock	39	40
Local Loan Stock	103½	North Western	170	¾	Nat. Prov. of Eng	43	4
India 5½ per Cent.	95½	South Western	135	7	Stand. Inf. S. Afr.	47½	8½
Do. 4½ p.c. Res.	69½	Manchester & Shef.	67	9			
Egyptian Guar.	102	Do. A.	35½	¾	Indian Consolidated	¾	¾
Met. Bd. Wks.	113	Met. Consolidated	72½	3	Mysore shares	3	¾
Do. 3 p.c. Scrip.	103½	Do. Land Stock	70½	1½	Oreoguns	1 16	3 10
Birmingham Crp. Stk.	109½	Do. District	33½	4	Cape Copper	3½	4
Liverpool	111½	Midland	115½	¾	Namaqua	3	¾
		North British	115½	¾	Mason and Barry	9½	¾
		North Eastern	113	¾	Rio Tinto	21½	¾
		North Stafford	112	14	Montana Lr shares	1 16	11 16
		South Eastern	112	4	De Beers	25½	¾
		Do. Deferred	105½	¾	Kimberley Cent.	30½	1
					TELEGRAMS AND TELEPHONES		
					Anglo-American	40½	1½
					Do. Pre.	67	8
					Direct Unit. States	9½	¾
					Eastern	12½	¾
					Ditto Extension	1½	¾
					United Telephone	13½	¾
					Globe Teleg. Trust	6½	¾
					TRAMWAYS, ETC.		
					London Gen. Omn.	203	8
					London Street	12	14
					London Tramway	14	15
					North Metropolitan	18	¾
					WATERWORKS.		
					Chelsea Waterworks	253	8
					East London	177	202
					Grand Junction	124	8
					Kent	269	74
					Lambeth	253	63
					New River, New	317	52
					5thwrk & Vauxhall	101	6
					W. Middlesex	254	9
					GAS AND ELECTRIC LIGHT.		
					Gaslight & Coke A.	255	50
					Imp. Continental	206	9
					South Metropolitan	315	20
					Brush Elec. Lc (4 p d)	3	½
					MISCELLANEOUS.		
					Allsopp	8½	¾
					Guinness and Co.	317	22½
					Hotchkiss	8½	9½
					Bryant and May	12½	¾
					Spirit's Patent	8½	9½
					and O. Steam	62	4
					Royal Mail Steam	59	61
					Nat. Discount Co.	11	½
					Judson's Bay	19	½
					and W. Ind. Dock	86½	7½
					London and St.	26	8
					Katharine	40	8

WHY BAIRD WAS BEATEN.

THE ADMIRAL'S OFFICIAL MEMORANDUM:

The naval manoeuvres of 1888 were concluded at noon yesterday. The *Daily Telegraph's* correspondent with the A Squadron sends the following "official order" issued by Admiral Baird, the "English" Admiral, which sets out the causes of his defeat in a way that ought to arrest popular attention:—

ADMIRAL BAIRD'S OBJECT ATTAINED.

1. I wish to inform the Rear-Admiral, Commodore, captains, officers, and crews of the British fleet that they have attained the object I desired—the only one considered by me possible under the conditions laid down—namely, maintaining the Channel Squadron, and the defence of the Thames and London.

ADMIRAL TRYON'S ESCAPE EXPLAINED.

2. After blockading B 1 Squadron in Berehaven, from July 24 to August 4, under exceptionally unfavourable and trying circumstances, occasioned by bad weather, several of the enemy's ships escaped, having succeeded in doing so without being observed by the inner blockading squadron. The night was very dark, heavy clouds about, and occasional squalls of rain and mist, which at times obscured everything. This proved of course most favourable for the blockaded ships. Still, as I was aware through the report of spies who had been with the enemy all day that the attempt would be made that night, I did not expect that they would escape without being seen. I am confident that a diligent and attentive look-out was kept, and it only proves that there would be no difficulty for a real enemy to get out if determined to do so. During the first week there were nights when the enemy might have easily got clear out from Berehaven, and if seen by our cruisers could not have been chased or followed up on account of the thick weather.

3. On the 4th, at 4 A.M., it having been reported that *Hercules*, *Warspite*, *Severn*, *Irís*, and *Cossack* had escaped, *Mersey* was despatched at utmost speed to inform Rear-Admiral Rowley and warn him that he must at once raise the blockade of Lough Swilly, and meet A 1 squadron, to avoid being overpowered by the combined forces of B fleet.

WHY THE BLOCKADE WAS RAISED.

4. The blockade was raised off Berehaven for the following reasons: (1) It was necessary to materially strengthen Admiral Rowley to make him safe. (2) Torpedo boats from constant work for ten days were now beginning to give out. Officers and crews were getting exhausted, and it could be seen that it was only a matter of time, and that very short, before the boats would have to be withdrawn. Their officers and crews, who had been working incessantly all this time, never getting any rest whatever at night, were beginning to show signs of distress. It was evident that the strain was too great, and, although they would not give in or hear of a relief, there was no doubt that a few nights longer would have finished them up, and certainly the blockade could not have been maintained without them. (3) Admiral Rowley had reported that the loss of *Inconstant* (torpedoed), *Mohawk* (broken down), and two torpedo boats (captured) had so reduced his force that he would be unable to maintain the blockade much longer. (4) Another reason was that the blockade had been maintained for ten days in all conditions of weather, which was sufficient for the purpose required by the order for the maritime operations.

5. When the blockade was raised, A 1 Squadron went north, leaving *Arethusa* and *Rattlesnake* to watch the movements of the enemy.

WHAT WAS LEFT TO DO—TO SAVE LONDON.

6. On arriving off the Mull of Galloway, where the squadrons joined, it was made known that three of the ships of B 2 Squadron had got out and had been chased by *Mercury*, which lost touch of them to the westward of Tory Island. *Calyso* and *Spider* had run the blockade a night or two previously, which made five ships altogether from Lough Swilly, and four certain (if not five) from Berehaven. There were no cruisers of sufficient speed to keep touch with the enemy, so it was determined to fall back on the English Channel, maintain the fleet intact—or, at any rate of sufficient strength to meet an attack of the enemy's whole force—and save the Thames and London from capture.

"IT HAS RESOLVED ITSELF INTO AN ARITHMETICAL SUM."

7. The Clyde and Liverpool could not be protected; the exceptional means possessed by B fleet for obtaining information were such that their admiral could always ascertain the strength of ships of a fleet detached for the defence of any port, and all he had to do was to make his force one numerically stronger to render their capture a certainty according to the conditions laid down.

8. From whichever point of view the case was considered, it has resolved itself into an arithmetical sum, as all ironclads are alike—*Holspur* and *Collingwood*, *Belleisle*, and *Benbow*, and numerical superiority determined the power of capture.

WHAT PREVENTED THE CHASE OF THE ENEMY'S CRUISERS.

9. The Channel was reached after the fleet had been detained in fog two days, and ships were badly off for coal. Although sufficient colliers were provided, it was not practicable to make use of them when most required. Sufficient was taken in at Portland to reach the Thames, then the A 1 Squadron hurried on and coaled at Sheerness.

10. A 2 Squadron, which had doubled back on Holyhead, in the hope of catching the enemy at Liverpool before he could ascertain their strength, followed to the Downs two days after. There being only a preponderance of three in favour of A fleet as compared with B fleet, it was necessary to keep all ships within reach of each other, which precluded any enterprise being displayed in attempting chase or capture of the enemy's cruisers. If once the ships had been detached on separate service, or lost touch of by the fleet, there was a possibility of capture, which would mean loss of numerical superiority; and that gone would carry with it the loss, not only of the fleet, but eventually of the Thames and London, which, I am glad to state, still remains intact.

THANKS ALL ROUND.

11. Before the ships disperse to their several ports I have to express to the officers of A Fleet my unqualified appreciation of the zeal and skill with which they have carried out the duties entrusted to them. The crews deserve my highest commendation for the manner in which they have seconded the efforts of their officers in carrying out operations which, though lacking the stimulating incidents of actual warfare, yet entailed many arduous duties of an exceptional nature. The services of the torpedo flotilla have been invaluable. In regard to this portion of the fleet I can but observe that the skill, untiring energy, and cheerful endurance of extreme discomfort and privation manifested by officers and men alike have been the admiration of all who have witnessed the operations of the fleet.

THE PROJECTED SHEFFIELD SHIP CANAL.

During the past month the Sheffield Chamber of Commerce has taken up the question of water communication between Sheffield and the coast. The heavy railway charges seriously hamper many local industries, in addition to which some of the larger steel productions of the district do not easily adapt themselves to railway carriage. A rough inspection of the waterways between Sheffield and Goole has already been made, and a committee appointed to consider the whole subject and ascertain in what way water communication can best be improved so as to afford cheap water carriage for the district. The committee includes manufacturers, landowners, and coal-owners.

CHARGE OF STEALING FOUR THOUSAND POUNDS.

At the Mansion House yesterday, John Parker, forty, described as a clerk, who refused his address, was charged before Alderman Sir Andrew Lusk with having on April 6, 1887, stolen a cheque for £4,000, and forging and uttering the endorsement of the payee thereon. Mr. Mullens, solicitor to the Bankers' Protection Association, who prosecuted, said the letter was enclosed in a letter remitted by Mr. Edwards, of Birmingham, to the Loan, Trust, and Agency Company of Australasia, at 147, Cannon-street. The prisoner was a son of the housekeeper at 147, Cannon-street. He was occasionally employed in the office as a temporary clerk, and he used to visit his mother at other times. The prisoner paid the cheque into the Camberwell branch of the London and South Western Bank, and then drew out nearly the whole of the money. The cheque was drawn on the Bradford Banking Company, and had been remitted by Messrs. Marshall, Stogdon, and Edwards. Detective Sergeant Hancock proved the arrest of the prisoner yesterday. Being asked if his name was John Parker, he said, "I do not say so." After the charge was read over to him he laughed and said, "You charge me with that, do you?" Mr. Mullens, replying to the court, said he understood the prisoner had lost all the money in betting. He believed the loss would fall on the sender, as there was no authority to send the letter to this particular office. The cheque had been the source of litigation already. Sir Andrew Lusk remanded the prisoner till Friday.

FATAL FALL FROM A SOUTH LONDON STEEPLE.

The death of the unfortunate young man, Alfred Oakley, of 27, Bishop's-road, Brixton, who fell from the steeple now in course of erection at St. John's the Divine, Vassall-road, Brixton, was the subject of an inquest held at the Mitre Tavern, Bishop's-road, yesterday. The foreman of the works was the principal witness. He explained that on Friday last the deceased came to him at about twenty minutes to six o'clock in the morning, and asked to be allowed to pass up. Soon after one of the workmen said that "something had fallen." Witness then found the deceased lying on the ground on his face. He was found to be dead when the doctor arrived. He had fallen about a distance of eighty-four feet. The deceased had permission from the verger to ascend. In his opinion he became giddy and fell. The neck and several of the ribs and the upper part of the thigh were fractured. The jury returned a verdict of accidental death, and cautioned the foreman "not to allow any other lad to ascend the steeple."

A PRIZE-FIGHT IN MONMOUTHSHIRE.

A prize-fight for £20 took place at Bidwelly, near Blackwood, Monmouthshire, yesterday morning, between Crowther, of Newbridge, and Cooke, of Abertillery. Cooke was severely punished, and after a dozen rounds Crowther was declared the winner. The police afterwards surprised the party and took Cooke into custody. The remainder, however, got away, but all are known to the police.

WHITE SLAVERY IN CHESHIRE.

The practice of Cheshire farmers in sending their men to Manchester produce market for days together without rest, except what they can get on the road, received severe condemnation at the hands of the Altrincham magistrates yesterday. At every petty sessions there are cases of men being summoned for having been asleep in their carts on the high road, and yesterday there were several. In the first, the wife of the defendant appeared, and stated that her husband had only had one night at home in eight nights, having had to go to Manchester from Tabley five times in one week. The chairman said the magistrates felt the conduct of the master in that case to be inexplicable. Taking his own letter, he admitted having sent him to Manchester, and he also admitted he had to employ him in the hayfield during the day-time after he got back. Under those circumstances they did not blame the woman's husband for falling asleep, and they would adjourn the case for a week in order to admit of some explanation.

NEW RUSSIAN LOAN.—The *Correspondance de l'Est*, of Vienna, learns from Brussels that the Russian Government have contracted in Amsterdam a loan of two hundred million francs at 5 per cent. interest, and that the same will be issued in October at 97 per cent.

DIPHTHERIA IN MADRID.—The return of the Spanish Court and Royal family to Madrid will be postponed as long as possible. The papers say that the diphtheria epidemic has been increasing in the capital, chiefly among children. From eight to ten cases daily, more than half ending fatally, are reported.

ANOTHER FATAL GUN ACCIDENT.—Mr. Peter Johnstone, of Lochwards Farm, Irvine, was accidentally shot yesterday. He was cleaning a gun, which his nephew was holding by the butt, he himself holding the muzzle. Believing the gun to be empty, Johnstone told his nephew to pull the trigger, with the result that a charge which had been left in the weapon exploded, entering Johnstone's breast, and he instantly fell dead. He was fifty years of age, and married.

ON THE MOORS.—Some of the largest moors in South Yorkshire and North Derbyshire were not shot over until yesterday. Sportsmen found the game small and tame, and, rather than shoot them, were content with small bags. The bagging of twenty brace has been considered good sport. On Earl Fitzwilliam's moors six guns had at lunch time killed forty brace. Mr. Morris and his five friends had up to Saturday killed on Longshawe Moors upwards of four hundred brace.

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Dr. Palliser's Patient.

By GRANT ALLEN.

IV.

It was a very ticklish case. On the third day after the operation, when I fed him with beef-tea by small spoonfuls, I noticed a distinct sucking action of the lips and throat. On the fourth day, when I left off injection, he swallowed greedily through the tube and opened his eyes. On the fifth he moved his arms and limbs, and on the sixth, after I found it practicable to change the cannula, I had the pleasure of hearing him utter distinct groans, without the slightest apparent hoarseness or injury to the larynx. The first undoubted sign of returning consciousness, however, was given when my patient flung his arms up in bed with a frantic gesture, and staring wildly round him with a vague surmise in his bloodshot eyes, cried out aloud in agonized accents, and in a frenzy of terror, "When is it? when is it?"

"Stop, stop," I answered, soothing him gently with my hand, and holding to his lips a glass of water with a little sal volatile: "don't be afraid. There's nothing to come. It's all done. The operation's over. You're better now. Quiet yourself, my good friend. You've no more to fear. The whole thing's finished. And now I'm going to make a regular convalescent of you."

Bernascon (if that was indeed the man's name as Beaumont assured me) raised his hand to his throat, all bandaged at the spot where the surgical incision had been so skilfully made, and feeling it with feverish haste, seemed anxious to assure himself that the terrible ordeal was indeed past. "Yes, yes," he exclaimed, in frantic eagerness, clutching his neck with his hands, so that I had to remove them forcibly but gently from the bandages for fear he should displace the apparatus and the cannula; "it's over! it's over! it's all over! My faith, doctor, I never thought I should get through it alive. A terrible experience! a terrible experience! Beaumont assured me they could manage it so; but I never believed them. I'm alive! I'm alive! I'm really alive then!"

His face was ghastly pale, and his eyes rolled horribly. He had hardly yet complete control, I could see, of the facial muscles.

"If I were you," I said, very solemnly, in a warning tone, "I'd take care to say not a single word about Monsieur le Docteur Beaumont, or any of the other physicians and surgeons who assisted the other day at the operation. Do you understand me? Well, well, that's right. The experiment's a dangerous one—a very dangerous one. If we pull you through at all, we'll have to expect and provide against much—well, much medical prejudice and jealousy. You take my meaning? Quite so. Very well, then, my advice to you, my good friend, is simply this: not another word about the friendly practitioners whose connivance and assistance have rendered this course of treatment possible. I thought they'd made all that clear to you already."

"So they did," my patient answered with a hideous shudder, "before the——"

"Before the operation," I put in hastily with a warning look at him under my eyebrows, for I knew Clairette was in the study adjoining; and in Paris, as Beaumont had justly remarked, walls have ears and hear everything.

"Before the operation," my strange patient went on, with a half-dazed, half-terrified expression of face. "Yes, yes, they told me so before the operation. But I seem to have forgotten everything



HE CRIED OUT ALOUD IN AGONIZED ACCENTS, AND IN A FRENZY OF TERROR, "WHEN IS IT, WHEN IS IT?"

about all that just now. A great blank has come over my memory. I hate to think of it. Morbleu, I feel as if I'd been really dead and come to life again after a week in the grave. Events seem to float so hazily before me. I remember nothing since the moment the—the surgeon arranged me on his bench for the operation. All else is a blank, a perfect blank to me."

I was about to reply, but at that moment, Clairette, knocking at the door, entered with the morphia for which I had sent her into my study.

"That's natural," I answered, frowning at him to keep his own counsel, "it often happens so with patients recovering from the effects of chloroform. Your ideas will grow a great deal clearer in time. For the present, as your medical adviser, I forbid you to say another word. Drink this powder." I handed him the morphia, dissolved in water. "You need more sleep and a little stimulant; you must rest much before you dare to talk again."

He gazed around him uneasily, with a startled air. "But I can't rest," he cried, clutching one chair with his hands, and feeling it all over to test its solidity, "till I really know this is the same old world as ever. I want to satisfy myself where I am now. The dreams I dreamt aren't true, then, after all! Oh, God, what dreams! what terrible, terrible jumbles of horrors! I thought I saw such a strange phantasmagoria! Things flitted and fluttered before

my eyes so fast! A ghastly procession! Duvernay was there, with his nicked dice; and Beaumont was there, with his cynical smile; and the café people were there, with their confounded tittle-tattle; and away in the background, white and weeping, with her pretty Puritanical face and her big red eyes——"

If he went on like this, I said to myself despondently, everything would be spoilt. "Bernascon," I cried, with stern resolution, in a voice of command, "you must stop this nonsense—at once—absolutely! You're weak still. You're not yourself." I held a handkerchief steeped in chloroform for a minute or two to his mouth. "You must be quiet," I said; "another five minutes would break the healing wound." I waved fresh chloroform before his face continuously. He dozed off gradually, a peaceful sleep. The morphia had soon begun to act. I watched him sleeping as a mother watches her child in its cradle. He owed his life to me, and I was indeed proud of him.

Now and then, as he slept, however, he started suddenly, still, as if some evil dream disturbed his slumber. His face twitched, and his fingers fumbled violently with the bed-clothes. It was clear his vague thoughts were haunted even yet by hideous memories of the horrible past. Once or twice he even tried to shriek aloud, and on each occasion the cannula, getting slightly displaced by the strength of the effort, half choked his utterance. I soothed him by repeated inhalations of my new drug, and injecting a portion freely into his veins, quieted his nervous system by slow degrees. Towards the afternoon the paroxysms slowly passed off. The nervous agitation disappeared altogether. I felt a thrill of joy and gratification. My discovery was a genuine one. The xiphophyllum had acted just as I supposed: it had wrought its beneficent effect at once. My patient was once more able to sit up in bed at ease and feel like himself again.

V.

I propped him on pillows, and allowed him to raise himself in an easier position. Greatly as I counted on the virtues of the infusion, its effect on Bernascon—the first human subject on whom I had tried it—fairly took my breath away. The exhilaration I had observed in the case of the guinea-pigs was nothing at all to it. No elixir of life could have acted more powerfully or more instantaneously. It seemed to invigorate him somewhat as champagne does with ordinary people: and like champagne, it brought out at once the most noisy and rowdy side of the man's nature. I had discovered a stimulant as powerful in its physiological effects as alcohol: but unlike alcohol, one that could only be used under these very special surgical conditions.

I was astonished at the change. A reaction had now undoubtedly set in. Bernascon was no longer tragic and terrible: he became coarse and vehement: he was a gamin of the boulevards in his disorderly humour. He talked freely, and laughed loud: so freely and so loud indeed, considering his parlous state, that I feared for the result to his vocal organs, and had difficulty in urging him, for dear life's sake, to remain quite quiet. He had given himself up for lost before the operation (as, indeed, had all his doctors), and now, in the first delight of recovered health, he could hardly restrain his boisterous mood of self-congratulation.

"So I'm alive after all, am I, Monsieur le Docteur?" he said, looking round him with infinite satisfaction at the modest furniture of my best spare bedroom. "Ha, ha, ha! that's very good, that. Morbleu, I took myself for dead, I assure you. My sensations at the moment were simply indescribable. On the morning——"

"On the morning of the operation you thought nothing would save you," I put in hastily, interrupting him, with a warning look, for Clairette, attentive and vigilant as ever, was standing by the bedside, ministering to his wants; and I didn't wish the secret of my success and the method I had employed to be prematurely disclosed to my professional brethren. "You're quite right indeed: it was a most ticklish case. The obstruction was removed almost by a miracle. Yours is the first successful recovery on record. These malignant cancerous growths in the throat have been hitherto almost invariably fatal."

"Ha, ha, ha!" my patient laughed once more.

immensely tickled—nothing wrong with the vocal cords, at any rate, thank heaven! "It was touch and go, as you say, that time. A tight squeeze, my dear doctor, a very tight squeeze. I never had a nearer squeak of my life. When I woke up yesterday or the day before, I gazed around me—hither, thither—with profound interest to see whether I was here or . . . somewhere else . . . you understand me. One's first awakening *là-bas*, let us admit, must be sufficiently curious—though not amusing. And when I saw these mundane chairs and tables all about—good solid oak of most terrestrial pattern—the real thing, and no shadowy imitation—I declare to you it quite reassured my soul. I say 'my soul' without theological implication or afterthought, M. le Docteur. For let us agree, we others, who are Voltareans in faith—"

"Hush, hush!" I cried anxiously, with professional zeal. "Your throat is far from recovered yet. If you talk too much, you'll spoil all. A man who is just convalescent from a serious operation—"

"For what has always hitherto been considered an incurable complaint—ha, ha, ha! he, he, he!" and he laughed till he coughed again.

"Must be careful not to overtax his new-born strength," I went on, seriously. "Recollect, Bernascon, that you are restored to your friends from the very brink and edge of the grave. The cancerous growth, you know," and I looked around me with conscious pride, "would decidedly have killed you in twenty-four hours."

"Am I likely to forget it, I ask you, my doctor? Thanks to your skill, I am restored, as you say, to the bosom of society. Aha! of society. Society no doubt will learn the fact with joy. I can fancy how eagerly it will welcome me back to its gilded salons! 'M. Bernascon, we salute you: we receive you in our midst: we rejoice to learn of your perfect health!' Ha, ha, ha! the cancer scotched! I could laugh till I die when I come to think of it!"

"Bernascon!" I cried in an authoritative voice, "cease this levity! You will laugh till you die if you don't take care. Unless you keep quiet, all will be lost. If you don't regard your own health, regard at least the success of an interesting and unique medical experiment."

"My dear doctor," Bernascon replied, trying to look grave, "what would you have? Levity is my nature. The gravest circumstances have never discomposed me. I float like a cork, buoyant, on the surface. My comrades of the Rue Popincourt used generally to call me, with Hugoesque humour, 'L'Homme qui Rit,' and I was proud of the title. Always gay—what a charming character! Yet it doesn't pay. 'Thiers,' they said, 'has risen by his gravity, while Bernascon, on the contrary, has sunk by his levity!' A delicious paradox! I love the equivocal. And, indeed, isn't it better, when one comes to think of it, to be gay and merry, even if one sinks, than to be grave and dull, even though one may rise by it? 'What's the odds, as long as you're happy?' says your English proverb. What think you, Fanchon . . . Zélie . . . Ninette . . . Dabet, whatever you call yourself? A short life and a merry one for you, my dear, isn't it?"

"Monseigneur!" Clairette exclaimed in surprise, drawing back suddenly; for she was a very well-conducted young woman, my housemaid (courted

by my coachman, *pour le bon motif*), and little accustomed to be thus unceremoniously addressed by strangers or patients.

"Ah, you're a prude, then, are you, little one?" Bernascon went on, still laughing immoderately; "at least you pretend to be, with your sly black eyes. *Pas si bégueule*, I venture to bet, ma'amzelle. But let that slide. Business is business. And the fact is, just now, to tell you the truth, I feel confoundedly hungry. I could eat a grampus. M. le Docteur, will you have the goodness to touch the bell at your side—electric bells too! every modern comfort—and tell your cook to send me up a nice little slice of roast chicken, off the breast, if you please; with a glass of hock and a crescent roll. I'm hungry enough to devour all Paris, I can tell you."

I shook my head, half smiling at the fellow's jaunty confidence. In spite of the circumstances, he ordered me about as if the house were his own. A mere experimental hospital patient, given up for dead, whom I had taken into my rooms out of pure humanity—and love of research! Anybody would have said, from the manner he assumed, that he was paying a thousand francs a week at least for his accommodation.

"No, no," I answered, with medical authority. "You can't have chicken. Impossible, quite. No solids at all for at least a week yet. Nothing but liquids."

Bernascon pouted his ugly lips. He was a handsome man altogether, though with a repellant expression; big and dark, with great luminous eyes; but his mouth, though half hidden by the bushy beard and military moustache, was distinctly his most repulsive and unbecoming feature. Large, coarse, and sensuous, with thick fleshy lips, it struck, as it were, at a first glance, the keynote of the man's whole moral nature.

"Nothing but liquids!" he repeated, with disgust. "Pouf! That's bad! Then, Fanchon, you may bring me a glassful of absinthe."

"My servant's name is Clairette, my friend," I said severely, for I saw it would be necessary to repress at once by stern means this impudent patient. He treated my house as if it were an hotel! "And you can't have absinthe or anything of the sort till your general health has quite recovered from the shock and strain of the operation."

Bernascon threw himself back languidly on the pillows. "And this is life," he murmured, with philosophical reflectiveness. "No absinthe, no dinner, no tobacco, and a prude to wait upon one! Confound the cancerous growth and all your Baratarias! Upon my word, doctor—I forget your name—I'm not sure I wouldn't just as soon, after all, have tried the other place!"

"My name is Palliser," I answered quietly: "and in the interests of science I forbid you now to talk any further."

"The interests of science be blowed," the big dark man responded, with a vigorous expression of disgust, which I decline to transcribe even in its original French. "But I say, Palliser, if that's how you call yourself—your English names are always crackjaws—what the dickens are you going to give me in the way of drink, then?"

I drew myself up, half indignant, half amused, that the fellow should have the effrontery to address

me thus by my name alone, and even to *tutoyer* me, as if I were one of his associates of the Rue Popincourt. "You shall have some gruel," I said, firmly, "and a little beef tea as soon as it's ready. Clairette, will you go down at once to the cook and order them?"

Bernascon's face was a study for a character painter. "Gruel!" he exclaimed, pursing up his mouth with profound disgust; "and beef tea! Hear him! You'll be feeding me with milk from a baby's bottle next, I suppose! *Diab!e!* what a diet for a man of the world! Bernascon, my boy, pull yourself together! I shall be glad when I can get out and about once more, for a cigar and a glass of cognac at the Café des Ambassadeurs! . . . Do you know, Palliser, I always had a taste for the Café des Ambassadeurs. . . . Duvernay and I used to sup there frequently." And he laughed again—that harsh, inane laugh of his.

My hair stood up in horror on my head as he spoke. If I was surprised before, I was disgusted, appalled, dumbfounded now, that he should speak of Duvernay with such utter insensibility. My conscience began to reproach me, almost. Was it right of me to have taken in and hospitably entertained, with all my professional zeal and skill, a fellow who could thus calmly play with crime, who could thus allude with a smile on his lips to Duvernay? I had heard of callousness and hard-heartedness before, but such abject depths of hardened feeling I had never till then even dreamt of.

Bernascon, however, went on, unnoticing my horror, in a musing tone, and with a face of much rapturous expression: "A pretty girl too, his daughter, Marie Duvernay. I thought she looked most becoming that day at the Hôtel de la Préfecture, in her neat black dress, and said what she had to say most sweetly and collectedly. . . . A very nice girl for a man to launch, I'll be bound, Palliser. Youth and innocence are always attractive . . . to a man of taste, always attractive. He may not possess them himself any longer, ha! ha! but he admires them in others . . . in others, *bien entendu*, ha! ha! ha! in others."

It came home to me with a painful flash of revelation that I should be very glad, now my experiment had so fully succeeded, when M. Bernascon was sufficiently cured to leave my house without serious danger to his valuable constitution.

Men like him one only cures out of professional courtesy.

"A pretty girl," he went on once more, in a sentimental voice that made me shudder inwardly. "I had a perennial liking from my youth upward for prettiness and simplicity. They take my heart—this susceptible heart of mine!"

Then a sudden thought seemed to strike him all at once. "I say, Palliser," he exclaimed with alarm, putting up his hands instinctively to the bandages over the half-healed wounds, "I hope the scars of this beastly operation of yours won't do anything to disfigure my personal appearance! If they should, I should be simply *désolé*. I'm a mar of the world myself. I count a good deal upon my personal appearance."

"The scars will leave not a sign," I answered. "Lie down and be quiet, and don't disturb me."

(To be continued.)

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cault, and C. E. Giddens; Mesdames Rose Saker, F. Roberts, E. Terriss, F. Moore, E. Penrose, and
Lottie Venn. Preceded by, at 8.15, THE DOWAGER. Doors open 7.45. N.B.—Stage and
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THIS EVENING, at Eight, THE UNION JACK. Mr. William Terriss; Messrs. C. Cart-
wright, J. D. Beveridge, J. L. Shute, L. Chutey, D. Somers, H. Russell, H. Halley, &c.; Miss
Mildred; Mesdames Helen Forsyth, O. Netherale, D. Drummond, E. Bufton, and Clara Jecks.
At 7.15, THE REFUGEES. Mr. D. Somers, Miss Agnes Miller, &c.

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GREAT SUCCESS of Miss SOPHIE EYRE as MARINA, NIGHTLY, at 8.45, supported by
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A. Cole, and Rosina Brandram.

SAVOY.—THE MIKADO.

COMEDY THEATRE.—LAST NIGHT for the present. At 9 o'clock, THE
ARABIAN NIGHTS.—TO-MORROW (Wednesday), August 22, will be produced a New
Farce Comedy, in three acts, entitled UNCLAS AND AUNTS, by W. LESTOCQ and WALTER
EVERARD. Mr. W. S. Penley, Mr. Charles Groves, Mr. Wilfred Draycott, Mr. W. F. Hawtrej, Mr.
Walter Everard, and Mr. W. Lestocq. Miss Cissy Grahame, Miss Maria Daly, Miss Caroline Elton,
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CONCERTS, COVENT GARDEN THEATRE. Admission, One Shilling.MADAME ALWINA VALLERIA will sing THIS EVENING Vocal Gavotte,
"What is Love?" (Arditi) and "Kathleen Mavourneen" (Crouch), at FREEMAN THOMAS'
PROMENADE CONCERTS, COVENT GARDEN THEATRE. Admission, One Shilling.MR. CARRODUS (Solo Violin) will play THIS EVENING "Le Tremolo"
(De Beriot), at FREEMAN THOMAS' PROMENADE CONCERTS, COVENT GARDEN
THEATRE. Admission, One Shilling.MR. HOWARD REYNOLDS will Play the CORNET SOLOS in "Remini-
scences of Bellini," Selections "La Traviata" and "Dorothy," also "The Exiles' Lament"
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Prices of admission:—Private Boxes from 10s. 6d. to £3 3s.; Grand Circle seats (numbered and
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RECENT PUBLICATIONS.

(Publishers would greatly oblige by stating the prices of books. Any notices under this head do not
preclude further review, should such seem to be necessary.)

We have received the following books since our last issue:—

BARRETT, FRANK. "A Recoiling Vengeance." (Ward and Downey.) [A novel in
two volumes.]COLQUHOUN, JOHN. "The Moor and the Loch." Seventh edition. (Blackwood.)
[Contains minute instructions in all Highland sports, and numerous illustrations.
Pp. 495.]FLETCHER, J. S. "Frank Carisbroke's Stratagem." (Jarrold.) [A shilling novelette,
forming a volume of Jarrold's Railway Library. Neatly got up. 1s.]GOODMAN, EDWARD J. "Paid in his own Coin." (Bentley.) [A novel in three
volumes.]HALLETT, SHACKLETON. "Executors and Trustees: their Duties and Responsibili-
ties." (Deacon and Co.) [A treatise "intended for the use of trustees and
executors to small estates, where circumstances will not admit of calling in the
assistance of counsel or solicitor." Pp. 240.]LINDLEY, PERCY. "Walks in the Ardennes." (125, Fleet-street.) [The autumn
edition of a capital guide, fully illustrated. Pp. 68, oblong 8vo.]STOPES, E. C. "The Bacon-Shakespeare Question." (T. G. Johnson.) [A reply to
the Baconians. Pp. 149, cloth.]

WOMEN AND THE FRENCH REVOLUTION.

Next year a general congress of women will be held in Paris to celebrate
the centenary of the great Revolution. The congress will be under the
auspices of the Women's League and the Female Federation. Mdlle. Barbe-
rousse, a schoolmistress, is the president, and she will be assisted in her
labours by M. Allix, a well-known supporter of the interests of women. The
congress is to be a national one for the space of three weeks, after
which for eight days women from all parts of the globe will be invited to take part.
Politics will be rigidly excluded, the business to be dealt with being other
practical questions that concern women. At a meeting on July 22 it
was stated that about twenty-five thousand women would be invited, and that
they could bring their husbands with them. The men, however, are not to take
part in the discussion.

SCOTCH TWEEDS IN IRELAND.

A point of some interest as affecting the woollen industries of Ireland is
incidentally raised (writes a correspondent) in a passage in Mr. Hurlbert's book,
"Ireland under Coercion" (D. Douglas). He mentions that in the chief shop
in the town of Dungloe, in Donegal, he asked to be shown "some of the home-
made woollen goods of the country." But he was assured that these had
on sale in Dungloe, and he was shown "piles of handsome Scottish tweeds"

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MISCELLANEOUS.

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DULWICH COLLEGE.—The next Entrance Examination will be held on Wednesday, September 19, at 2.30 o'clock P.M. Applications to be sent in on or before Saturday, Sept. 15. For particulars of the College, of the subjects of this Examination, and of the various boarding houses, apply to the School Secretary.

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